

Mars Exploration Program

Doug McCuiston, Director
1 December 2006



***"Those who labor over robotic missions
are some of the great explorers of our
times, even though their feet never tread
the soil of another world"***

National Academy of Science "Assessment of NASA's Mars Architecture
2007-2016"



Why Mars?



- *A tangible frontier that has captivated human's curiosity, imagination, and the spirit of exploration for ages*
 - *Mars has had and will continue to have special appeal to the public.*
- *Mars is the most easily accessible body that has the potential to answer all four key research objectives of the Planetary Science Division:*
 - *Learn how the Sun's family of planets and minor bodies originated and evolved*
 - *Understand the processes that determine habitability in the solar system, including the Earth's biosphere and Mars.*
 - *Identify and investigate past or present habitable environments on Mars and other worlds.*
 - *Discover potential hazards to humans, and search for resources.*
- *It is the only planetary body that for which we can realistically assess biological potential, and life*
 - *Early Mars preserves a record of conditions and materials from which life could have started on Mars or on Earth*
 - *Even today there are places on Mars that could be "habitable"*
- *Mars accessibility permits frequent and iterative exploration.*
 - *Allows for an integrated and sustainable program, providing feedback affecting subsequent missions in science and engineering.*
- *Mars is specifically targeted in our nation's Vision for Space Exploration.*





Mars is a Nationally Recognized Priority

and High Priority for the Agency

NASA Advisory Council Planetary Science Subcommittee

Within solar system exploration, Mars is the highest priority target for detailed investigation

- The ability to address all 4 research objectives at Mars, coupled with its accessibility, make Mars a unique scientific target in the solar system.*
- Mars exploration has progressed to the level where scientific investigations require multiple assets that form a temporally and spatially interrelated infrastructure on the surface and in orbit.*
- Mars is specifically called out as a high priority target in the VSE.*

National Research Council

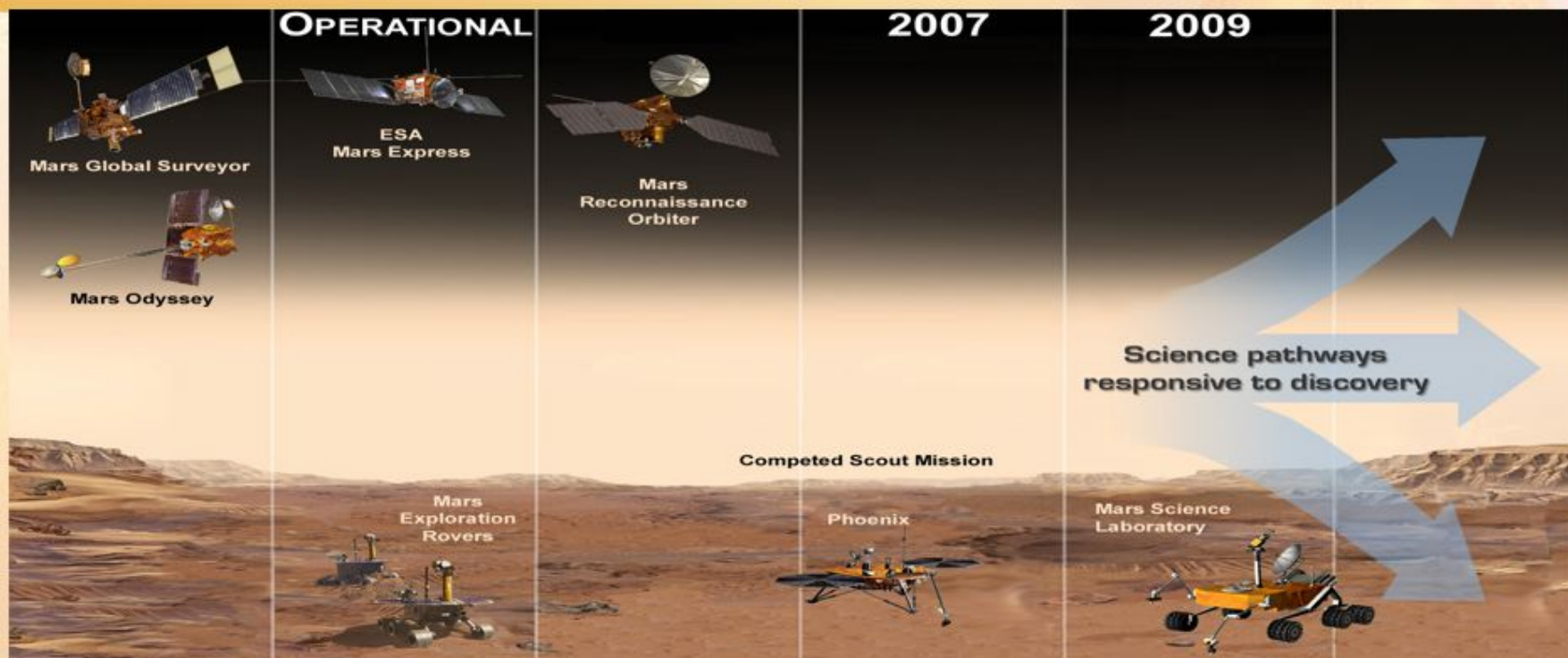
“The decadal survey envisions a very active and balanced Mars Exploration Program that would substantially contribute to an integrated understanding of the formation and evolution of the solar system.”

The Vision for Space Exploration

“The timing of the first human research missions to Mars will depend on discoveries from robotic explorers, the development of techniques to mitigate Mars hazards, advances in capabilities for sustainable exploration, and available resources.”



MEP—An Integrated Set of Activities Creating a True Program Structure



Strategic, Core Missions

Competitive PI-Led Missions

Advanced Planning & Community Input

E/PO Programs

Base Technology

MER Focused Technology

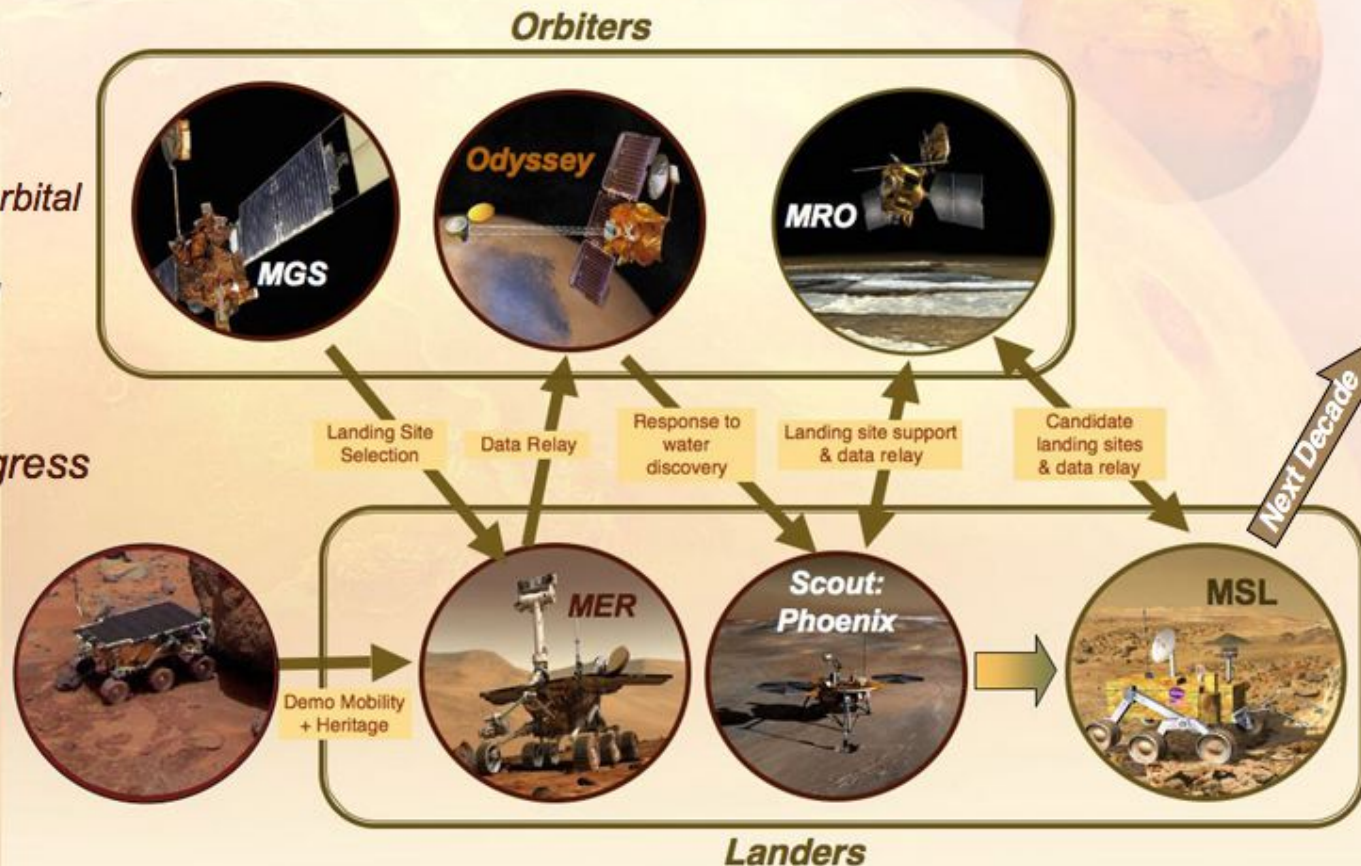
MRO Focused Technology

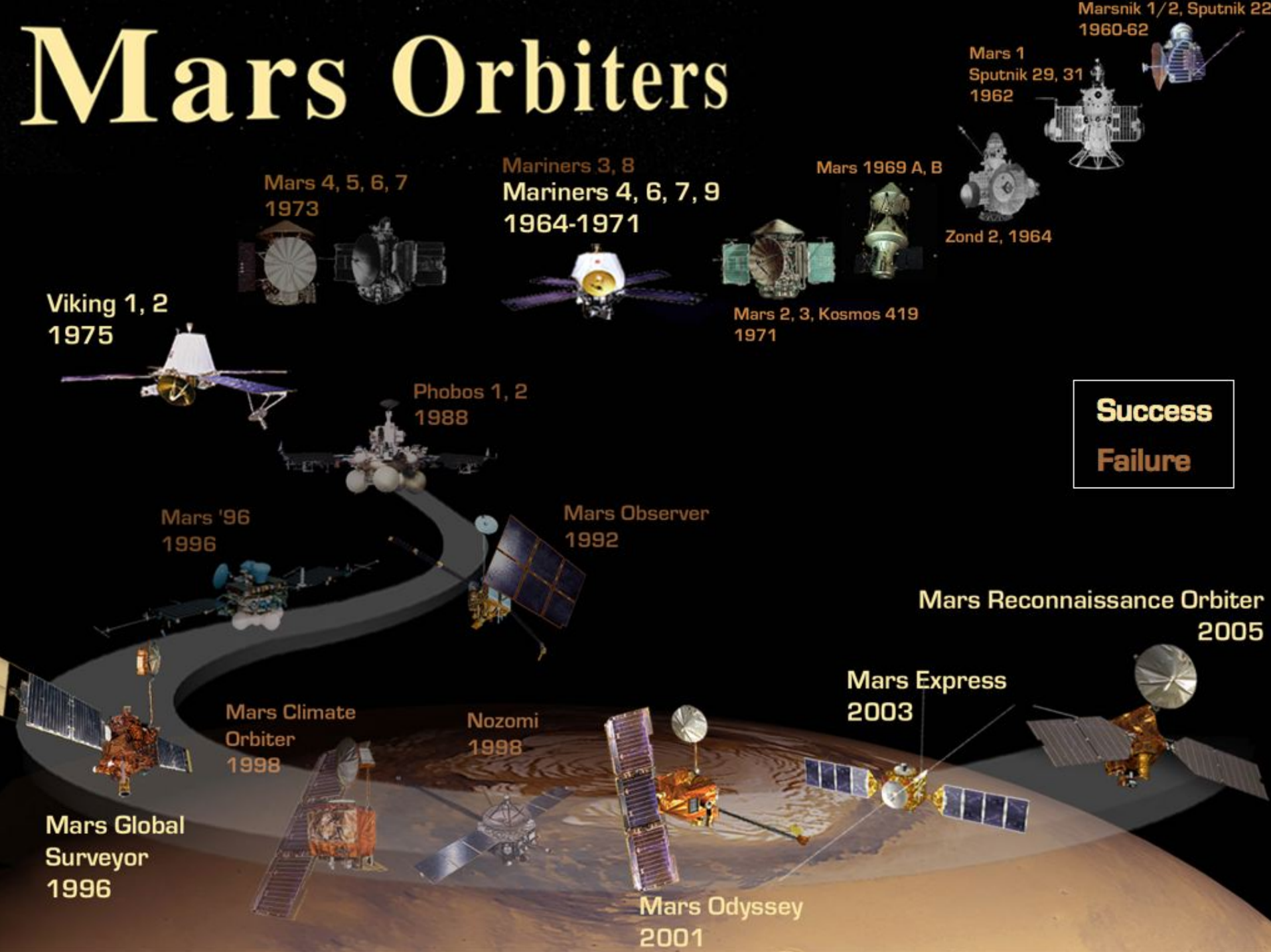
MSL Focused Technology



Detailed Exploration Requires a Long-term Program Approach

- Support key science strategies and goals
 - Intensive investigation requires flight at every opportunity
 - Integrated surface & orbital assets
 - Aligned Research and Analysis Programs
- Provide technology progress and infusion
 - Supports evolving capabilities
- Sustain a supporting infrastructure
- Management structure that supports integration of assets and requirements





Marsnik 1/2, Sputnik 22
1960-62

Mars 1
Sputnik 29, 31
1962



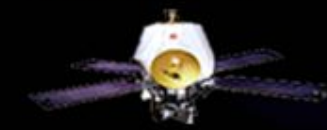
Zond 2, 1964

Mars 1969 A, B



Mars 2, 3, Kosmos 419
1971

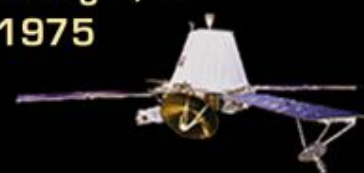
Mariners 3, 8
Mariners 4, 6, 7, 9
1964-1971



Mars 4, 5, 6, 7
1973



Viking 1, 2
1975



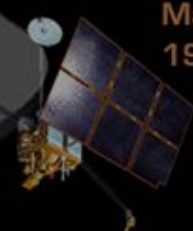
Phobos 1, 2
1988



Mars '96
1996



Mars Observer
1992



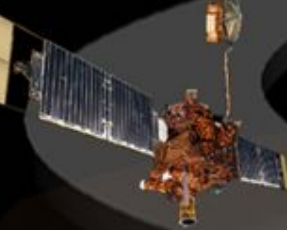
Mars Climate
Orbiter
1998



Nozomi
1998



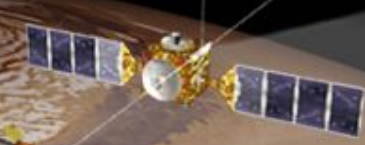
Mars Global
Surveyor
1996



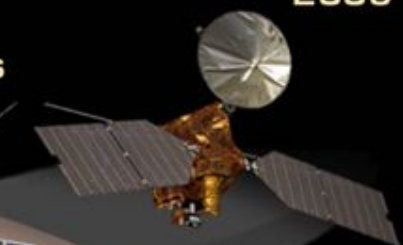
Mars Odyssey
2001



Mars Express
2003



Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter
2005



Success
Failure

Mars Landers

Mars 2, 3, 6, 7
1971-1973



Phobos 1, 2
1988



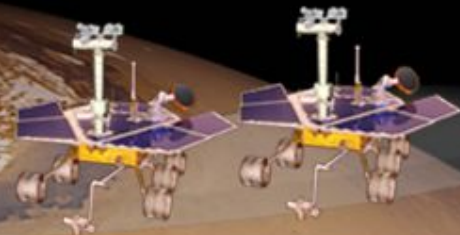
Vikings 1 & 2
1975



Pathfinder
Sojourner
1996



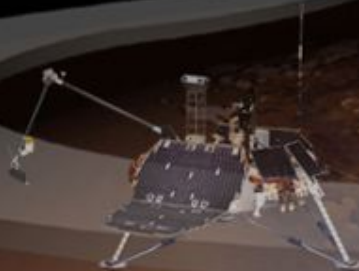
Mars Exploration Rovers
2003



Beagle II
2003



Mars Polar Lander
1998

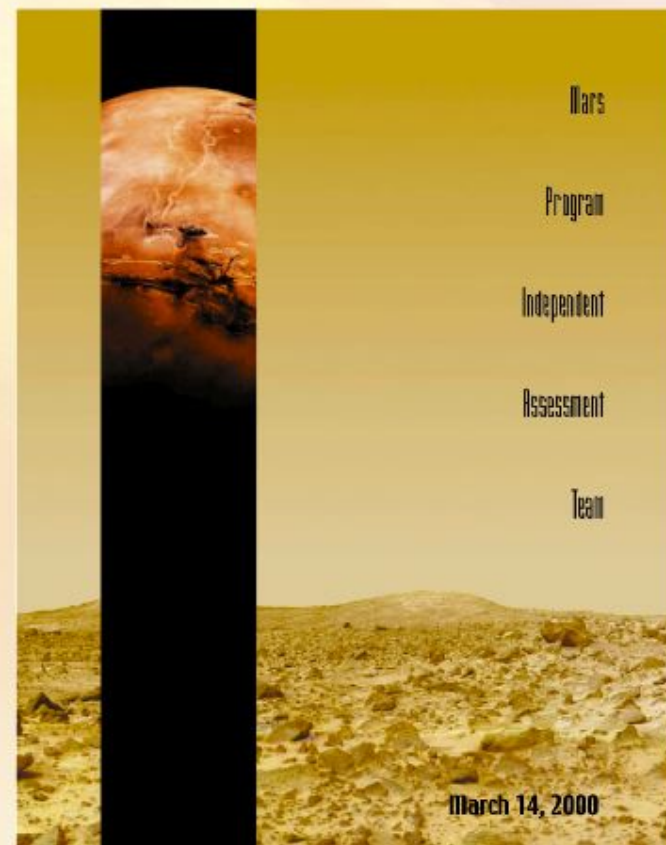


Success
Failure



The Mars Exploration Program Historical Context

- *Mars Surveyor Program established in 1994*
- *Mars Pathfinder and meteorite ALH84001 revealed extensive public interest*
- 1999 failures of Mars Climate Orbiter and Mars Polar Lander led to Review
 - The “Young Report”, Mars Program Independent Assessment Team (MPIAT)
- Restructuring of Mars program in 2000 established the principles and strategy for this decade of missions:
 - Current Program structure
 - 2001-2009 Mission Architecture
 - Clear lines of authority
 - Current management practices
 - Early definition and stability of Project requirements
 - Early assessment of mission risks and effective risk management
 - Technical/Financial margins commensurate with risk
 - Comprehensive independent reviews
 - Continuity of management/personnel from development to operational phases
- These principles and practices have withstood the test of time—based on success to-date





Goals, Objectives, Requirements Structure

- *At the top level, the Program is driven by 2 types of Program Goals*
 - *Scientific Goals*
 - *Driven by National Policy (the Vision), the NASA Strategic Plan, SMD Science Plan, and community input (the National Academies, Mars community, NASA Advisory Council), etc.*
 - *Programmatic Goals*
 - *Derived from NASA policy and procedure (e.g. NPDs), SMD policy (e.g. Science and Strategic Plans), and national policy (e.g. the Vision)*
 - *Developed to enable accomplishment of the Scientific Goals*
- *Derived elements “under” the goals include:*
 - *Scientific Objectives*
 - *Programmatic Objectives*
 - *Program-level Requirements flow from goals and objectives, and include:*
 - *PCA Technical Commitments*
 - *Program-derived, top-level requirements*



Programmatic Goals

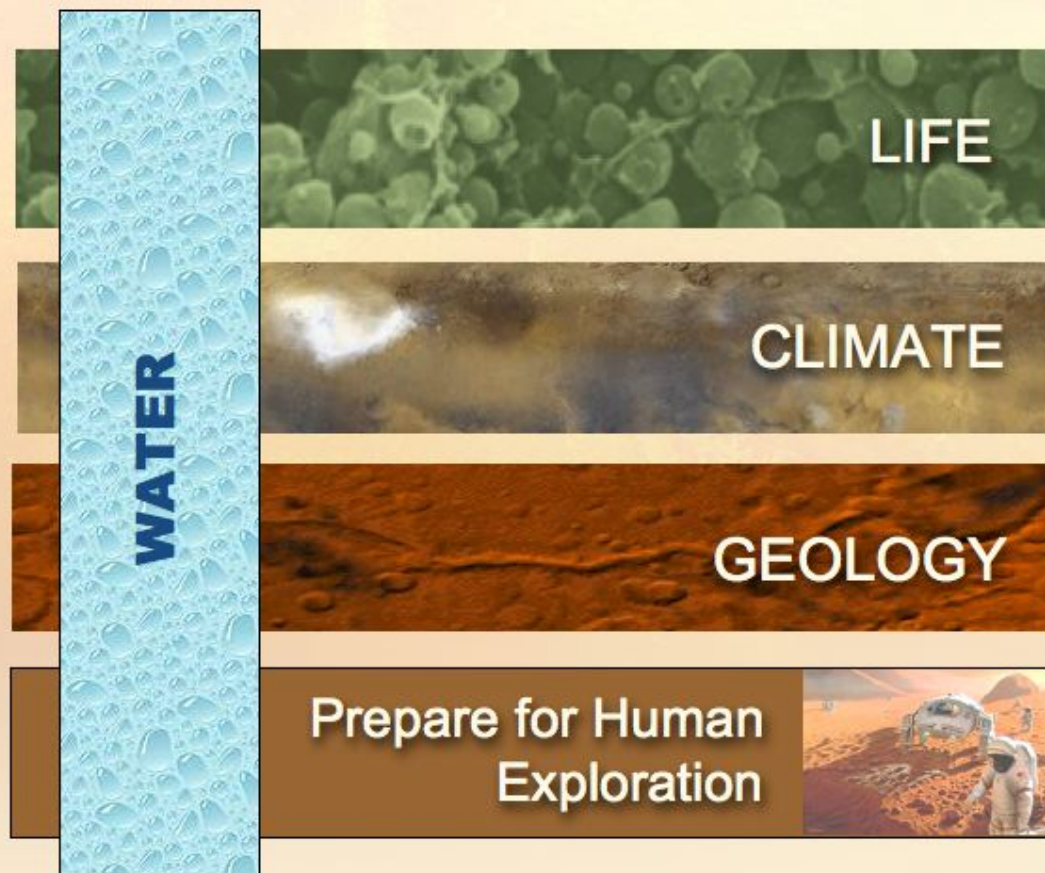


- *Maintain a continuous operational presence at Mars*
 - *Operating orbiters or landers*
 - *Provide telecommunications relay capability*
- *Launch at least one mission to Mars at each 26-month opportunity*
- *Provide continuing improvements in technical capabilities of Mars missions by investments in technology development*
 - *Conduct a technology investment program*
 - *Investment goal of 5-10% of the overall MEP budget.*
- *Capitalize on measurement opportunities that contribute to the advancement of knowledge required for future human exploration of Mars, in collaboration with ESMD.*
 - *Consider scientific measurements and technologies that can enable human exploration of Mars*
 - *Exploit relevant data*
 - *Fly instruments of opportunity from ESMD on a mutually agreed-to basis.*
- *Ensure that Mars exploration activities will be publicly engaging and will contribute to NASA's education strategies*
 - *Conduct an exciting education and public outreach program*



The Mars Science Strategy: “Follow the Water”

A science-driven effort to characterize and understand Mars as a dynamic system, including its present and past environment, climate cycles, geology, and biological potential.



Understand the potential for life elsewhere in the Universe

Characterize the present and past climate and climate processes

Understand the geological processes affecting Mars' interior, crust, and surface

Develop Knowledge & Technology Necessary for Eventual Human Exploration

When • Where • Form • Amount



Each Science Goal has Underlying Scientific Objectives

- **Goal – *Life*:** *Determine if life ever arose on Mars*
 - *Assess the past and present habitability of Mars*
 - *Characterize carbon cycling in its geochemical context*
 - *Assess whether life is or was present on Mars*
- **Goal – *Climate*:** *Understand the processes and history of climate on Mars*
 - *Characterize Mars' atmosphere, present climate, and climate processes*
 - *Characterize Mars' ancient climate and climate processes through study of the geologic and volatile record of climate change*
 - *Characterize the state and processes of the Martian atmosphere of critical importance for the safe operation of spacecraft*
- **Goal – *Geology*:** *Determine the evolution of the surface and interior of Mars*
 - *Determine the nature and evolution of the geological processes that have created and modified the Martian crust and surface*
 - *Characterize the structure, composition, dynamics, and evolution of Mars' interior*
- **Goal – *Prepare for Human Exploration***
 - *Obtain knowledge of Mars sufficient to design and implement a human mission with acceptable cost, risk and performance*
 - *Conduct risk and/or cost reduction technology and infrastructure demonstrations in transit to, at, or on the surface of Mars*



Community Input and External Advice to MEP

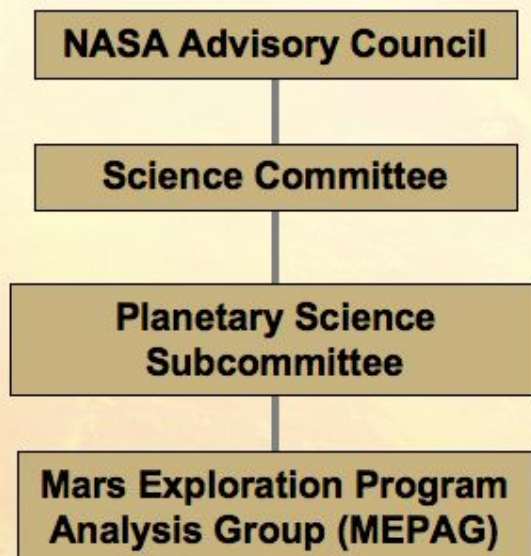
Community Input

- The Mars Exploration Program Analysis Group (MEPAG)
 - Self-identified scientific community interested in Mars exploration
 - Executive Committee for planning MEPAG meetings and commissioning Science Analysis Groups
 - Chair is member of the Planetary Science Subcommittee

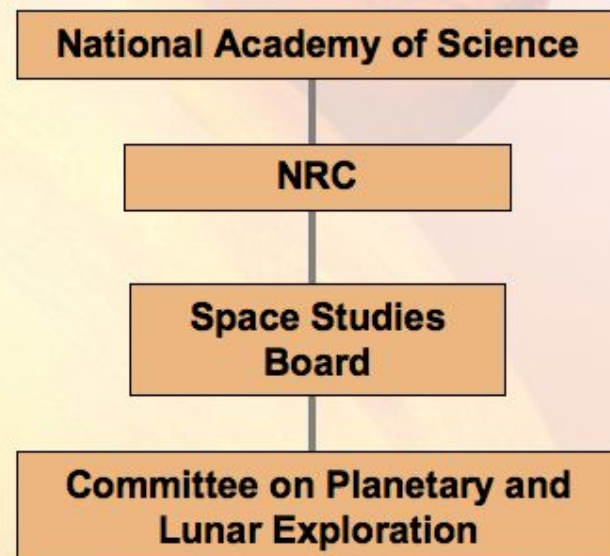
NASA Advisory Council

- Planetary Science Subcommittee
 - Advise on scientific and programmatic priorities for Planetary Science
- Planetary Protection Subcommittee
 - Advise on planetary protection requirements for missions

NASA Advisory Structure



Federal Science Advisory System



National Research Council

- Committee on Review of Solar System exploration including Mars
 - Decadal Survey
 - Special assessments on request
 - Planetary Exploration (COMPLEX)
 - Committee on Origin and Evolution of Life (COEL)
- Astrobiology Strategy for Mars Exploration (commissioned study)



Mission Classes

Fair and Open Competition: Instruments and/or Missions

- ***Strategic Missions***

- Strategic missions are required to accomplish the scientific goals and objectives defined by the Agency and Program—assigned to a NASA Center
- *Mars community to analyze benefits & feasibility of mission possibilities*
- *Science Definition Team (SDT) – HQ commissioned group to develop mission goals, characteristics, and strawman payload*
- *Competitive selection of investigations (with instruments and/or spacecraft bus) addressing the goals defined by the SDT*

- ***Mars Scouts***

- Missions that are complementary to the Strategic Mission line, that also provides quick-reaction research responding to discoveries
- *PI led missions (PIs proposing to meet science goals)*
- *Every 2 or 3 launch opportunities*
- *Announcement of Opportunity (AO) selection process*
- *9-month Phase A for down-select*
- *May include competition for “Mission of Opportunity”*



MEP International Partnerships

- *MEP is continuously exploring, entertaining, and encouraging international participation in Mars exploration*
 - *There is a vibrant, healthy interest internationally in Mars Exploration*
 - *Every NASA Mars mission has international collaboration*
- *International cooperation is typically undertaken on a no-exchange-of-funds basis.*
- *Cooperation can be competed or strategic:*
 - *Foreign partners are routinely selected through NASA competitive Announcements of Opportunity for contributed instrumentation and science.*
 - *At times, it may be in NASA's interest to seek a strategic partnership as a means to combining financial resources; gaining access to unique foreign capabilities, expertise, or geography; increase the mission flight opportunities; enhance the scientific return; or promote U.S. foreign policy interests.*
- *NASA cooperates in planning missions through:*
 - *International Mars Exploration Working Group (IMEWG)*
 - *Multi- and bi-lateral agreements and studies*
- *Management of mission risk due to dependencies is managed on a case-by-case basis*



The Mars Exploration Program

The Current Decade

Launch Year

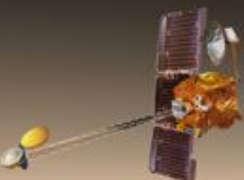
2007

2009

OPERATIONAL



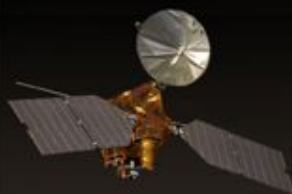
Mars Global Surveyor



Mars Odyssey



ESA
Mars Express



Mars
Reconnaissance
Orbiter



Mars
Exploration
Rovers

Completed Scout Mission



Phoenix

Mars Science
Laboratory



Science pathways
responsive to discovery



Mars Program Architecture: Next Decade

Launch Year

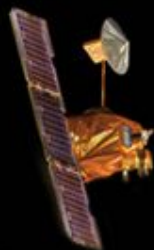
2011

Completed Scout Mission



2013

Mars Science Orbiter



- Atmospheric science and potential for geophysical package
- Extends telecom infrastructure

ESA
ExoMars

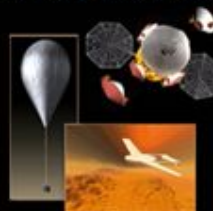


2016

1 Mission in
Each Opportunity
Selected from
4 Options

2018

Completed Scout Mission



Twin Mid-Rovers



Long-Lived Surface Network



Astrobiology Field Laboratory



2020+

Mars Sample Return



Missions



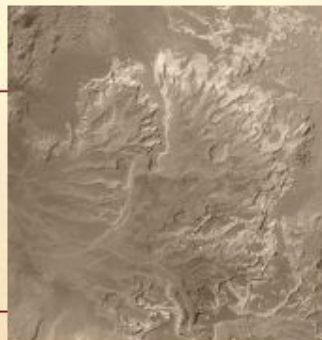
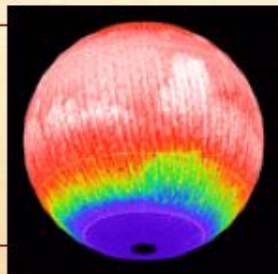


Mars Global Surveyor-1996



Salient Features

- Global mapping of Martian atmosphere, surface, magnetic field
- Nadir pointed spacecraft
- 5 instruments (MOC imager, MOLA laser altimeter, TES - IR spectrometer, MAG magnetometer, RS radio science)
- Launch date: November 1996
- Mapping lifetime: One Mars year (687 days)



Status

Last confirmed contact with MGS was Nov. 2. Attempts to image with MRO and communicate through MER have been unsuccessful.

Science

- *Thermal Emission Spectrometer mapped Martian minerals revealing a diverse volcanic history and found the first evidence of an aqueous mineral, hematite, in the region of Meridiani Planum*
- *Mars Orbiter Camera revealed: extensive layering deep into the Martian crust; deltas, at Eberswalde and Holden Crater, evidence of long-standing bodies of water into which water persistently flowed; and thousands of gullies, evidence that water had flowed on the surface of Mars in the recent past.*
- *Mars Orbiter Laser Altimeter mapped global topography. The characterization of the volume and vertical structure of the permanent polar caps on Mars show they are predominantly made of water ice (and not CO₂ ice)*
- *Magnetometer found remnants of an ancient magnetic field, indicating that Mars had a protective magnetic field early in its history.*



Mars Odyssey - 2001

Salient Features

- *Mars Orbiter Launched: April 7, 2001*
- *Payload: GRS, THEMIS, MARIE*
- *Primary Mission: Feb 19, 2002 - Aug 24, 2004*
- *Extended Mission: Aug 2004 - Sep 2006*

Status

- *THEMIS*
 - *Excellent health with nominal performance*
 - *99.9% of surface mapped in infrared, 44.6% mapped in visible*
- *GRS Suite (GRS, NS, HEND) - Excellent health with nominal performance*
- *MARIE - Non-functional since October 2003*

Science

- *Globally Map the Elemental Composition of the Surface.*
- *Acquire High Spatial and Spectral Resolution Mapping of Surface Mineralogy.*
- *Determine Abundance of Hydrogen in the Shallow Subsurface.*
- *Provide Information on the Morphology of the Martian Surface.*
- *Characterize Specific Aspects of the Martian Near-Space Radiation Environment.*
- *Observing inter-annual variations and secular changes*





THEMIS: **Supporting MSL Landing Site Selection**



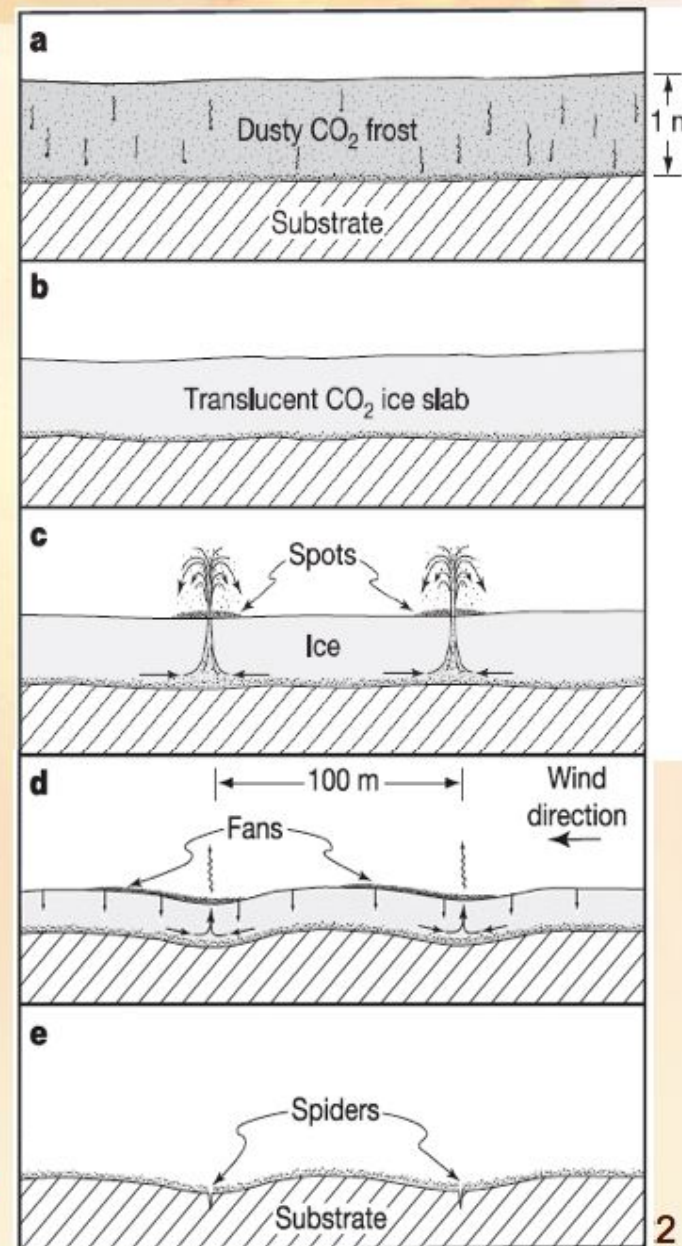
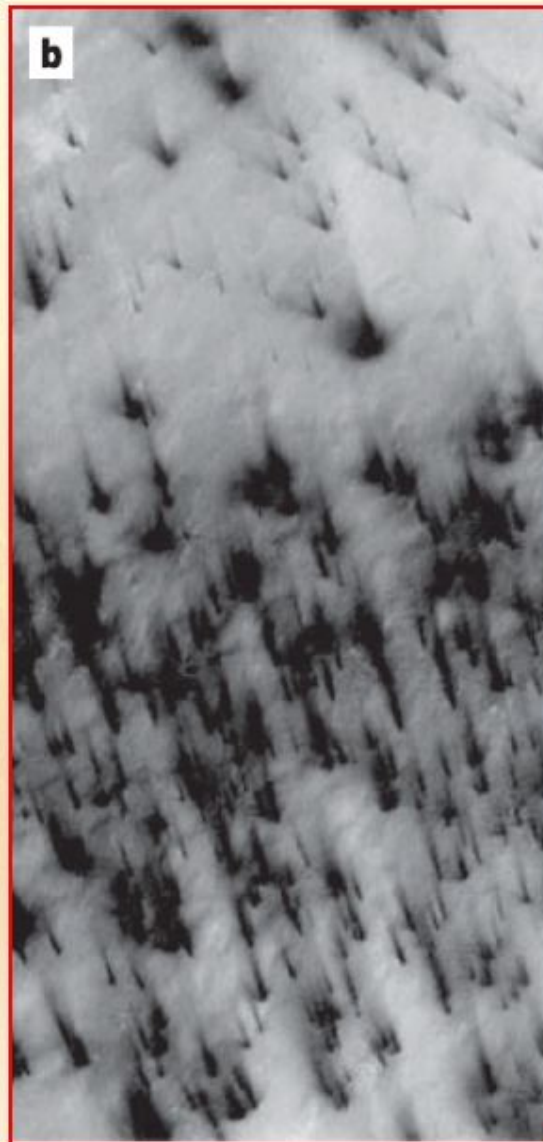
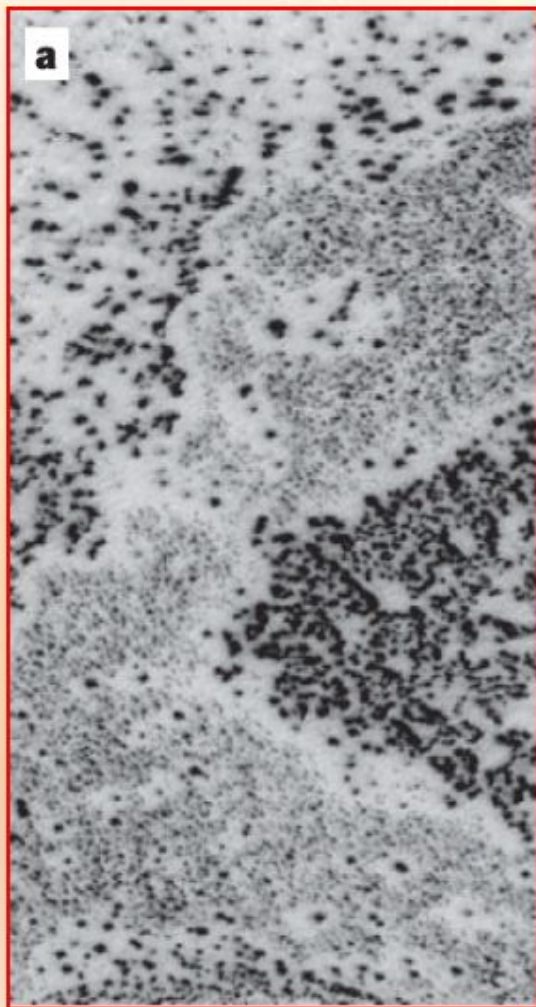
Western Candor Chasma

- 1 of 33 sites under consideration for MSL
- Area has interior layered deposits
- OMEGA has found evidence for hydrated sulfate minerals and kieserite (a magnesium sulfate). Water plays an extensive role in their formation.
- THEMIS false color IR, 100 m resolution



Odyssey

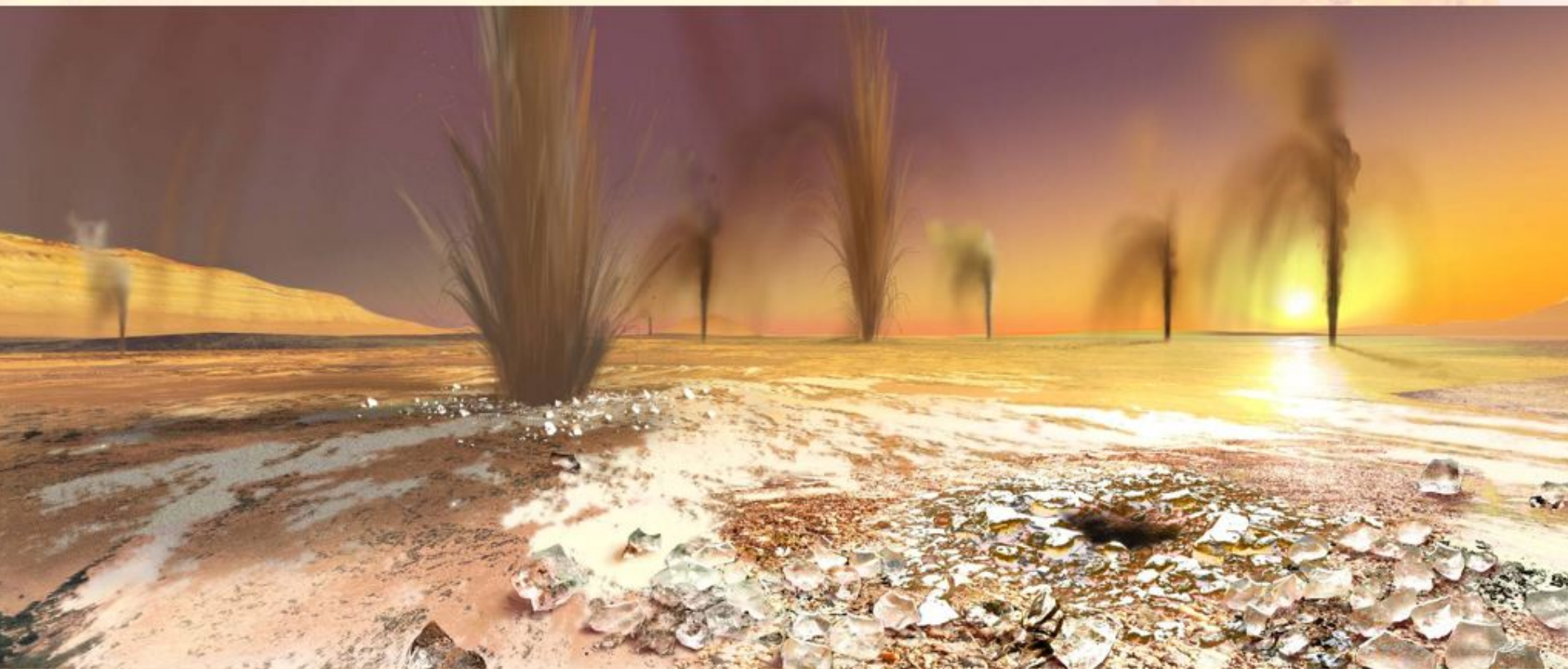
Spots, Fans, and Spiders at the South Pole





Odyssey

Spots, Fans, and Spiders = CO₂ Geysers

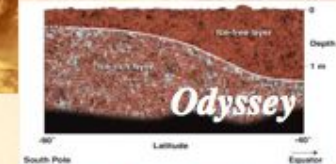




Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO)- 2005

Salient Features

- **4 Earth years in Mars orbit (near polar, 3 p.m., 250 x 315 km)**
 - 2 years science observations plus relay support
 - 2 years relay mode with capability to extend science operations
- **International Science Payload:**
 - Sub-meter (~ 30 cm/pixel) & context (6 m/pixel) imaging
 - Hyperspectral (~20 m, 7 nm) compositional mapping
 - Atmospheric profiling and weather monitoring
 - Radar probing of the near-subsurface; gravity science
- **Relay Telecom Payload + Optical Navigation & Ka-Band Experiments**
- **Launched: August 12, 2005; Arrived: March 10, 2006; Aerobraking: April-August 2006**
- **Primary Science Phase: Nov. 2006 - Dec. 2008; Relay Phase: May 2008 - Mission End, Dec. 2010**



Science: "Follow the Water" Strategy

- **Characterize Mars' seasonal cycles and daily variations of water, dust & carbon dioxide.**
- **Characterize Mars' global atmospheric structure, transport and surface changes.**
- **Search sites for evidence of aqueous and/or hydrothermal activity.**
- **Characterize in detail the stratigraphy, geology & composition of Mars surface features.**
- **Characterize the Martian ice caps and the polar layered terrains.**
- **Profile the upper crust while probing for subsurface water and ground ice.**
- **Characterize the Martian gravity field and upper atmosphere in greater detail.**
- **Identify and characterize many sites for future landed missions.**



Spacecraft Description

Launch mass: 2180 kg

Size: 14 m solar array tip to tip and 7 m high

Array power: 6 kW (BOL/1 AU) and 2 kW in Mars orbit

Maximum data rate: 5.6 Mb/s

3 m HGA and 100W TWTA

Composite structure

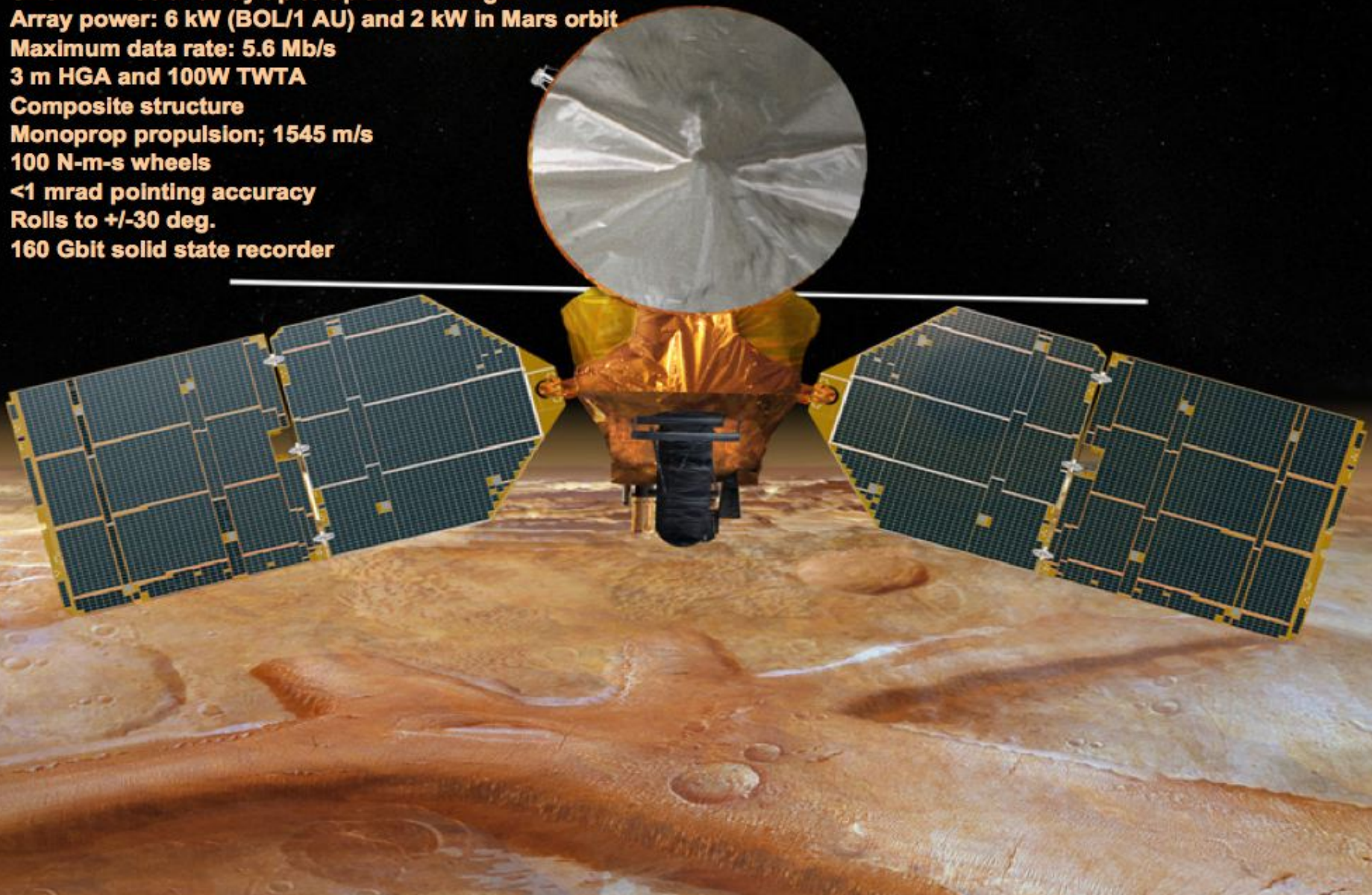
Monoprop propulsion; 1545 m/s

100 N-m-s wheels

<1 mrad pointing accuracy

Rolls to +/-30 deg.

160 Gbit solid state recorder

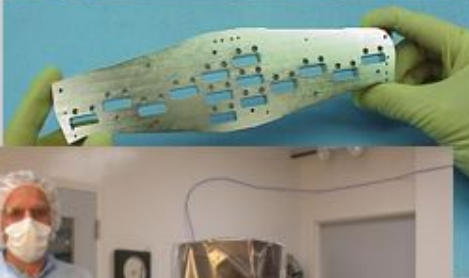
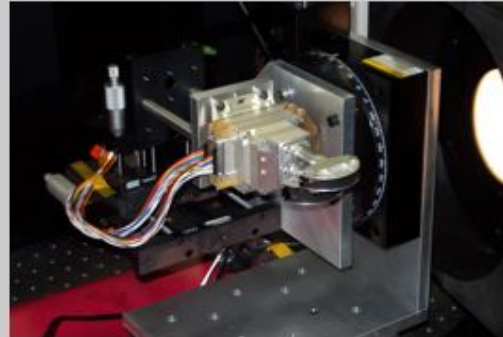


MRO Science Instruments



HiRISE *CRISM*

MARCI



MCS

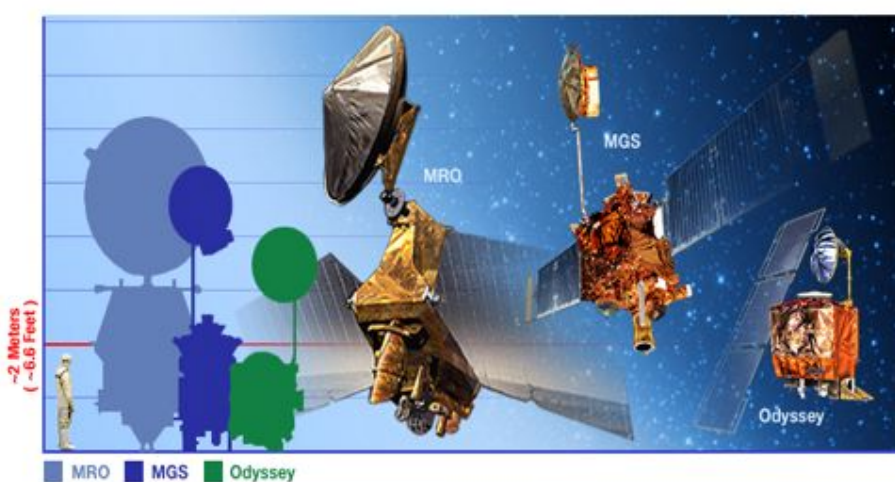


CTX



SHARAD





MRO is *BIG*, by Any Comparison

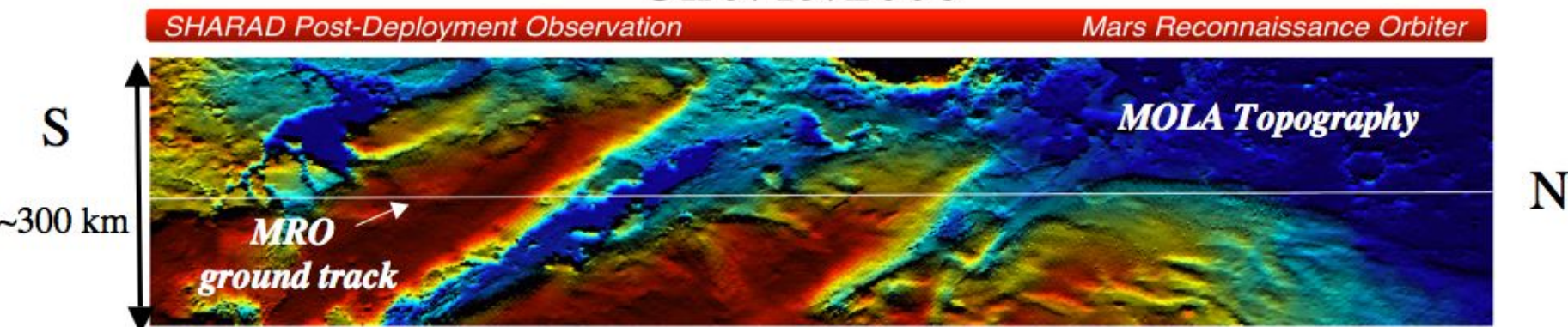
Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO) plans to return over 3 times as much data as five missions put together.



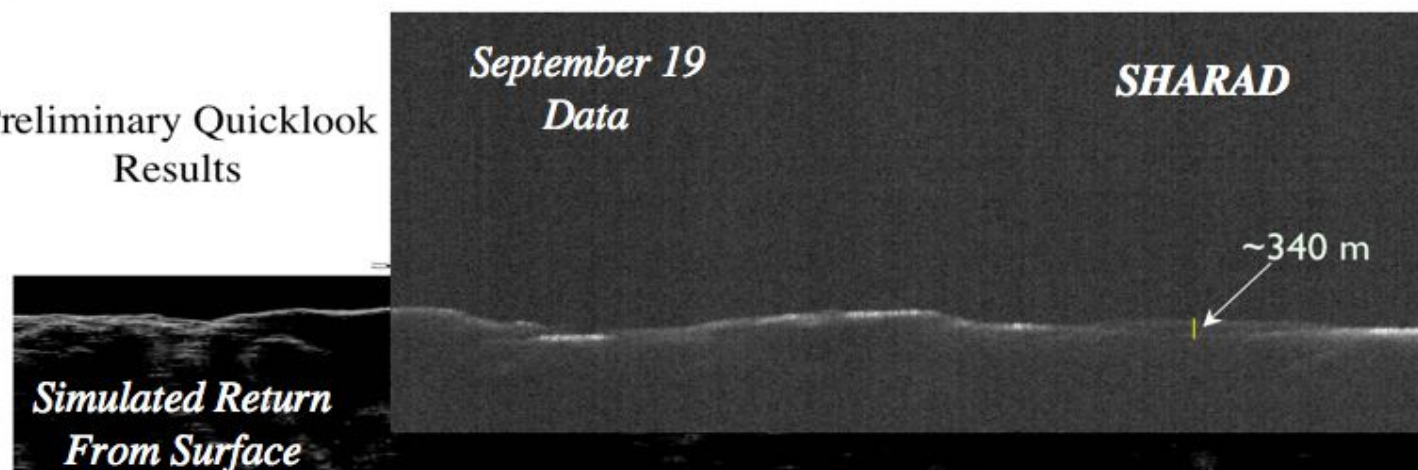
SHARAD Observation of Medusa Fossae

On 9/19/2006

WU-SHARPS



Preliminary Quicklook Results



SHARAD preliminary radar-gram superimposed on simulated radar-gram computed from MOLA topography (top)





Mars Exploration Rovers-2003

Salient Features

- **Two Mars landers launched in June and July of 2003**
- **Delivered to the surface using the Mars Pathfinder Entry, Descent and Landing system**
- **5 instruments to conduct remote and in-situ observations**
- **Arrived January 2004 at two scientifically distinct sites**
- **Operational life ≥ 90 sols for each lander**
- **Rover traverse capability ≥ 1 km**



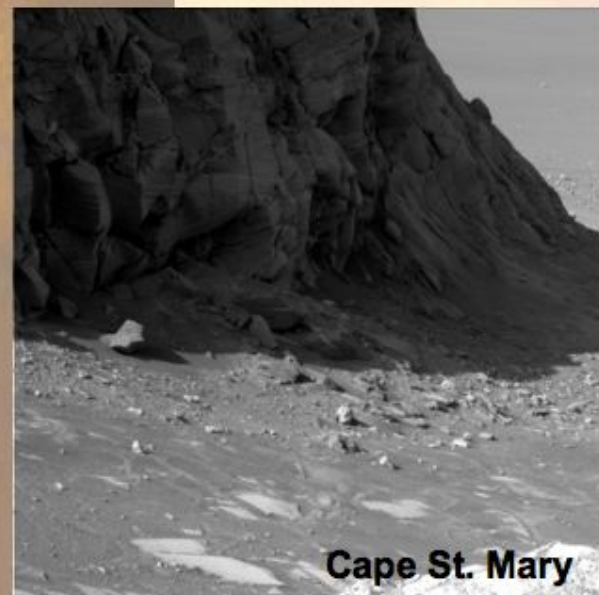
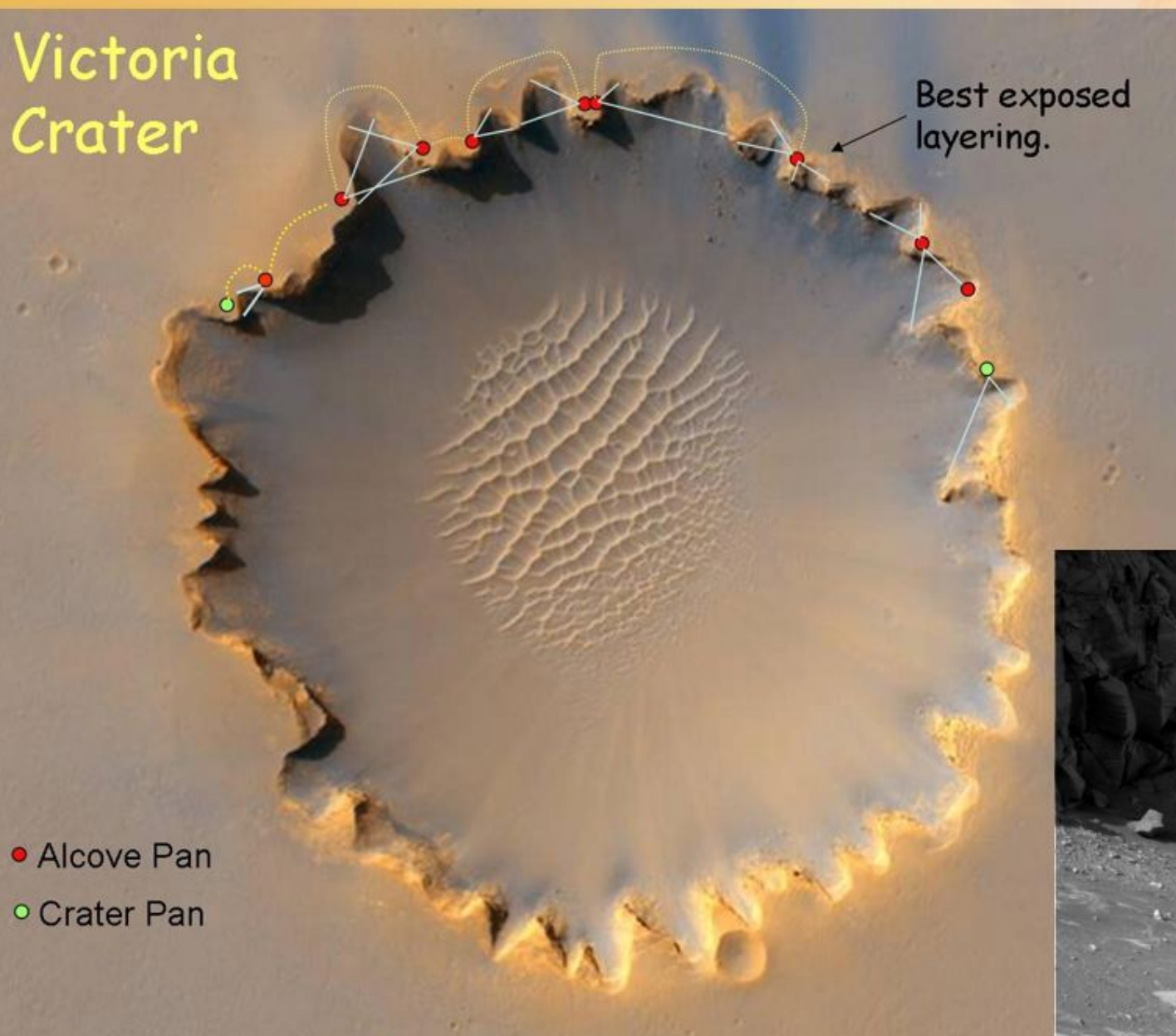
Science

- **To determine the aqueous, climatic, and geologic history of a site on Mars where conditions may have been favorable to the preservation of evidence of pre-biotic or biotic processes.**
- **To identify hydrologic, hydrothermal, and other processes that have operated at the landing site.**
- **To identify and investigate martian rocks and soils that have the highest possible chance of preserving evidence of ancient environmental conditions and possible pre-biotic or biotic activity.**
- **To respond to other discoveries associated with rover-based exploration.**



Traverse & Imaging Plan

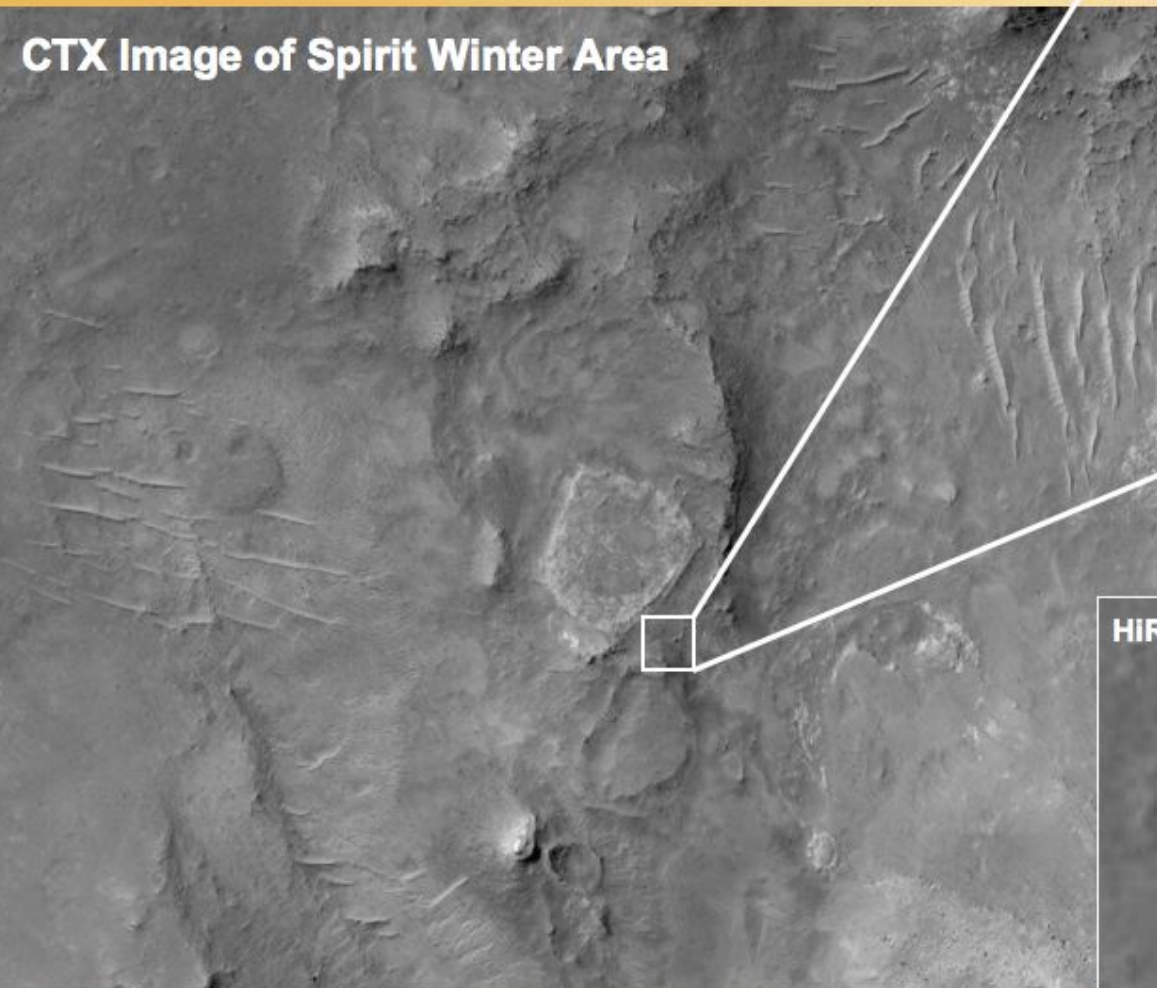
Victoria Crater





Spirit by Home Plate

CTX Image of Spirit Winter Area



HIRISE—Spirit Chute & Backshell



HIRISE—Spirit Lander

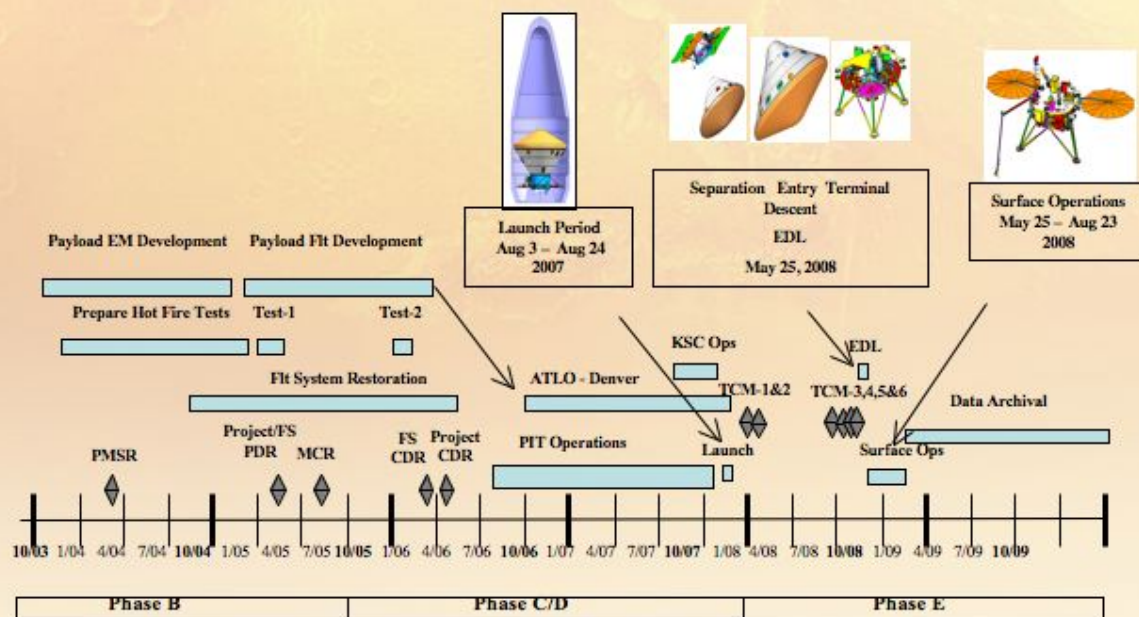
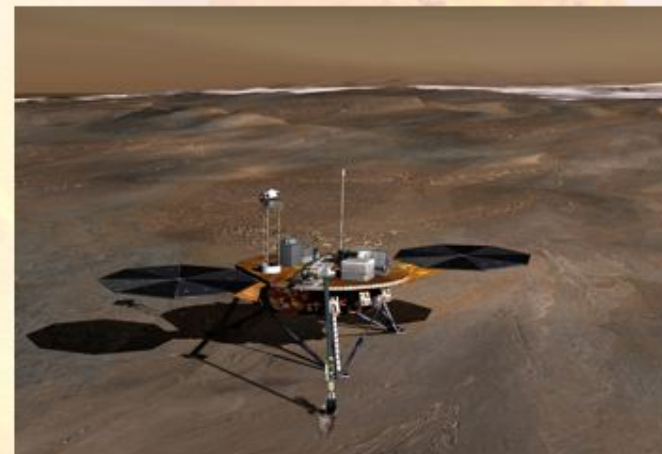




Phoenix-2007

Salient Features

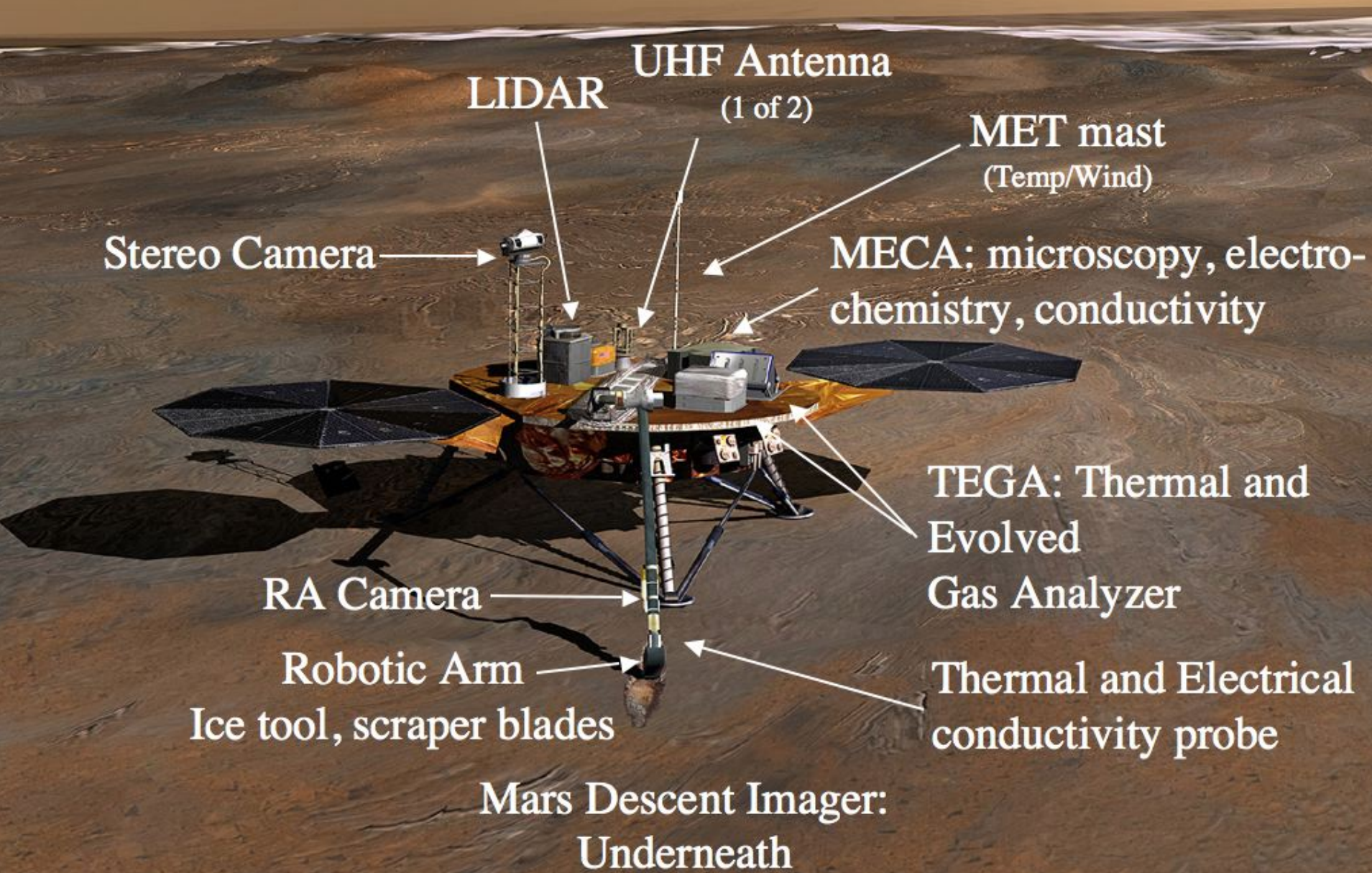
- 90 Sol mission to the water rich northern latitude (~65°-75°) of Mars
- Makes use of the flight assets developed for the postponed MSP'01 lander
- Two analytical in-situ instruments: Thermal Evolved Gas Analyzer (TEGA), and Microscopy, Electrochemistry & Conductivity Analyzer (MECA)
- Both analytical instruments supplied samples of the Martian surface by the robotic arm
- Three imagers: Mars Descent Imager (MARDI), Surface Stereo Imager (SSI) and Robotic Arm Camera (RAC)
- Meteorological suite to measure Martian winds, temperature, and pressure



Science

- **Goal #1:** Study the history of water in all its phases with paleo-hydrological, geological, chemical, and meteorological methods
- **Goal #2:** Search for habitable zones by characterizing the subsurface environment in the permafrost region, by measuring the concentration of organic molecules, by performing water chemistry on wet soils (water provided), and by microscopic examination of soil grains

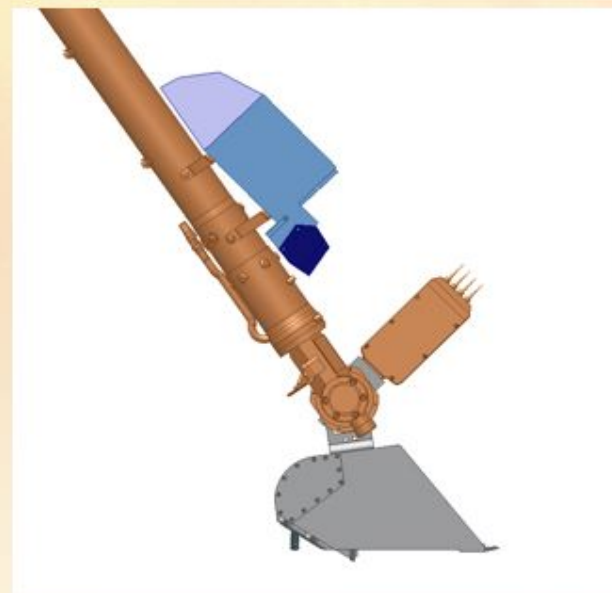
The Phoenix Lander





Phoenix Will Uncover the History of the Northern Ice

- The soil mineralogy and chemistry retain signatures that ice has melted and interacted with the soil
 - Significant salt content and its inventory of anions and cations tells us whether water ever leached salts from the soils and how it compares with Earth soils
 - Carbonate or sulfate mineralogies give important clues to the history of the planet
 - The geomorphology of the surface can be compared with earth analogs to try to understand what forces shaped the surface
 - Isotopic ratios of hydrogen and oxygen tell us whether the surface ice and the atmospheric water vapor are in equilibrium





Scientific Goals of the Planned Mars Science Laboratory

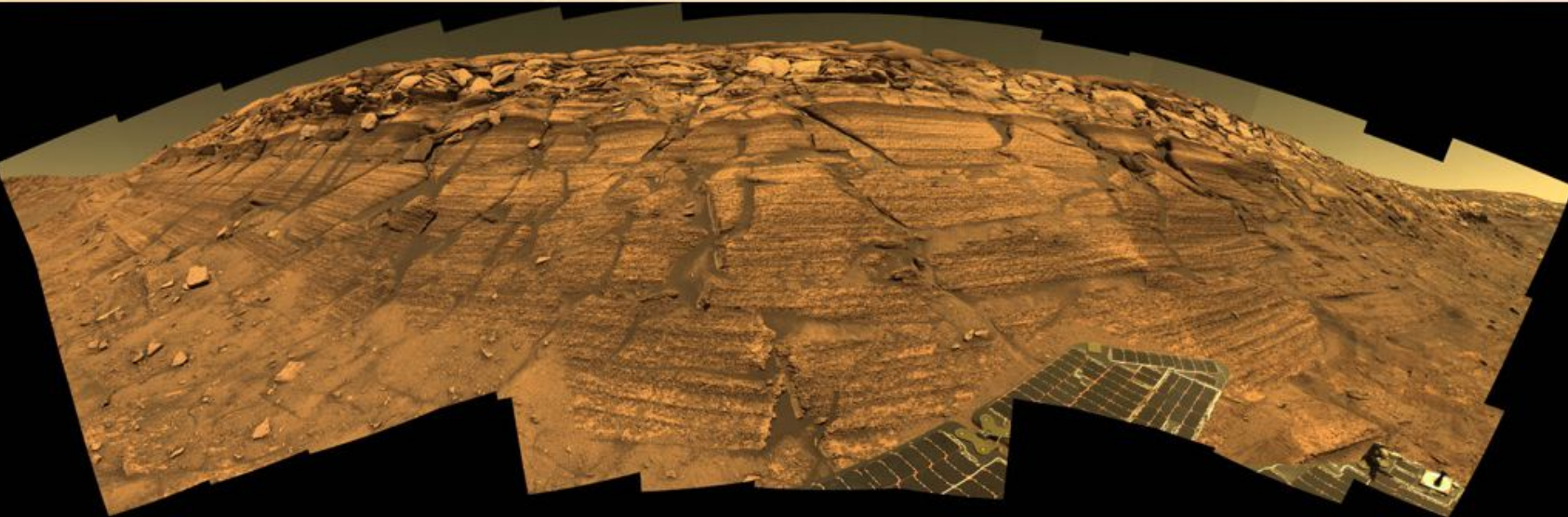
Explore and Quantitatively Assess a Habitable Environment

Habitability and Human Exploration:

- Detect and identify any organic compounds
- Make an inventory of the key chemical building blocks of life
- Identify traces of past life
- Characterize the radiation environment at Mars' surface

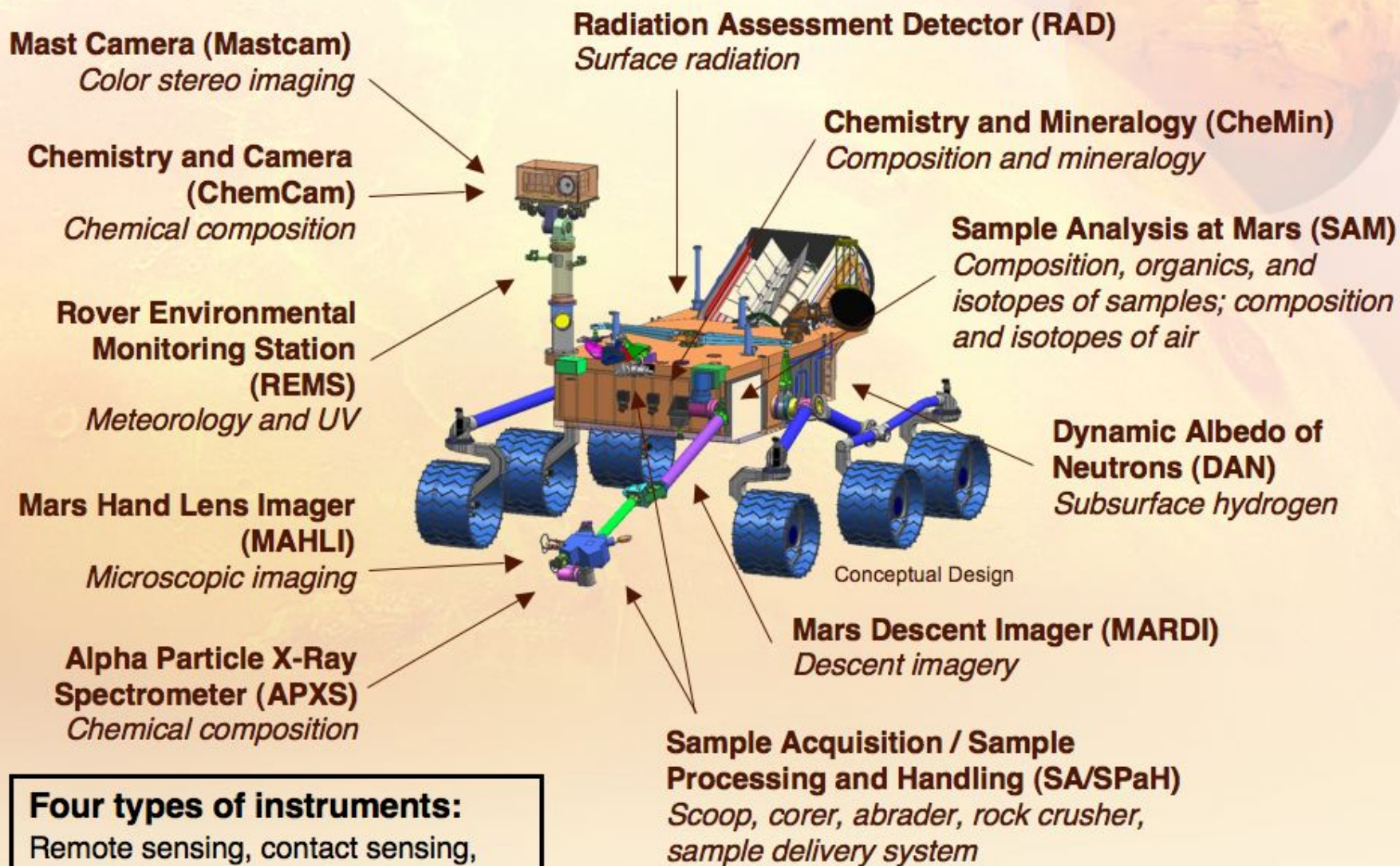
Geology and Climate:

- Examine the composition of rocks and soils and interpret the processes that formed and modified them
- Assess how Mars' atmosphere has changed over billions of years
- Determine the current distribution and cycles of water and carbon dioxide





Mars Science Laboratory-2009



Four types of instruments:

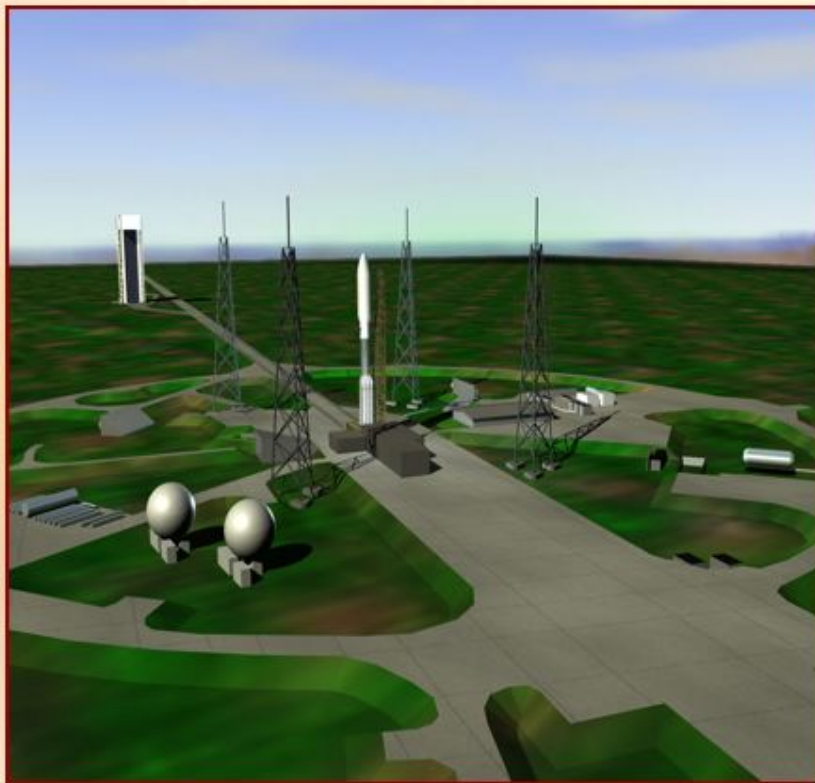
Remote sensing, contact sensing,
environmental, analytical laboratory



Launch, Cruise and Approach

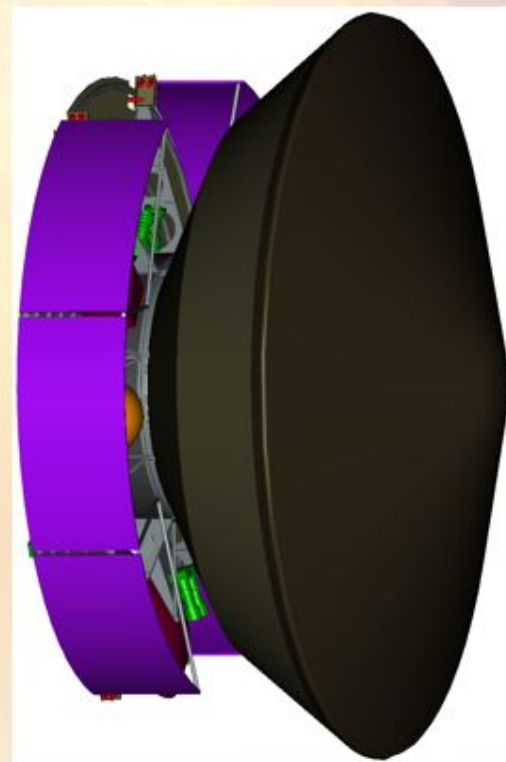
Launch

- September – November 2009
- Atlas V launch vehicle



Cruise and Approach

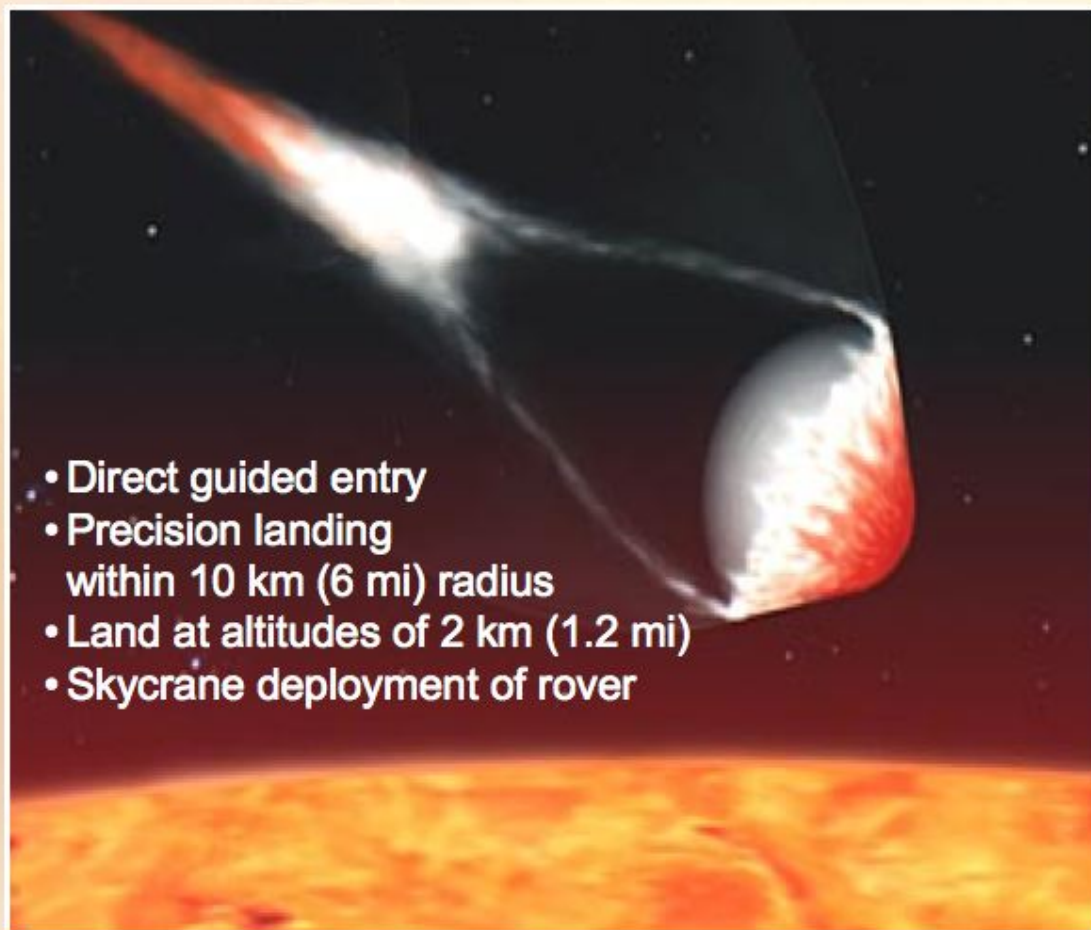
- 10-12 month flight time
- Jettisoned cruise stage



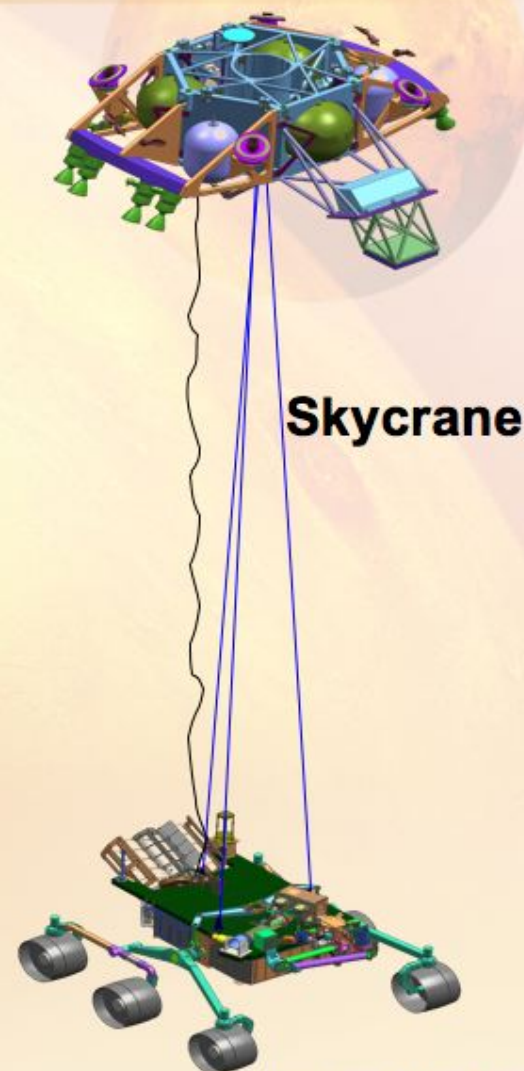


Entry, Descent and Landing

Descent through Mars' atmosphere



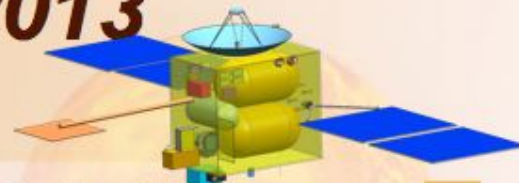
- Direct guided entry
- Precision landing within 10 km (6 mi) radius
- Land at altitudes of 2 km (1.2 mi)
- Skycrane deployment of rover



Skycrane

Design Concept

Mars Science Orbiter (MSO)-2013 **One Potential Concept**



Prominent Features:

- High reliability, 10-year lifetime
- High-performance 10 Gb/day X- & Ka-band telecom
- UHF relay: gimbaled antenna
- Broad-range pointing capability
- Efficient mono-prop propulsion system

MRO-Class Spacecraft

Longer lifetime, higher orbits

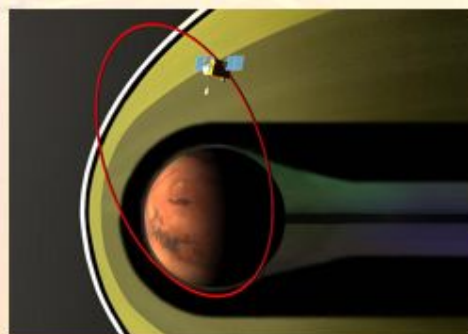
Launch Mass 3400 (kg)
(includes contingency)

Orbiter	1300
Instruments	100
Orbiter Bus	1200
Propellant	2100

4 m Launch Vehicle
Fairing

Target Launch Vehicle
High-end Atlas V or Delta IV

SCIENCE MOTIVATION



Atmosphere as a System

Characterize from ground to solar wind

EXAMPLE PAYLOAD

Sub-mm Emission Spectrometer
Fourier Transform Spectrometer
UV Spectrometer
UV-VIS Context Camera
Ion/electron Detector
Ion/neutral Mass Spectr.
Langmuir Probe
Magnetometers
Multi-Freq. Radio Science



Endorsed by SAG

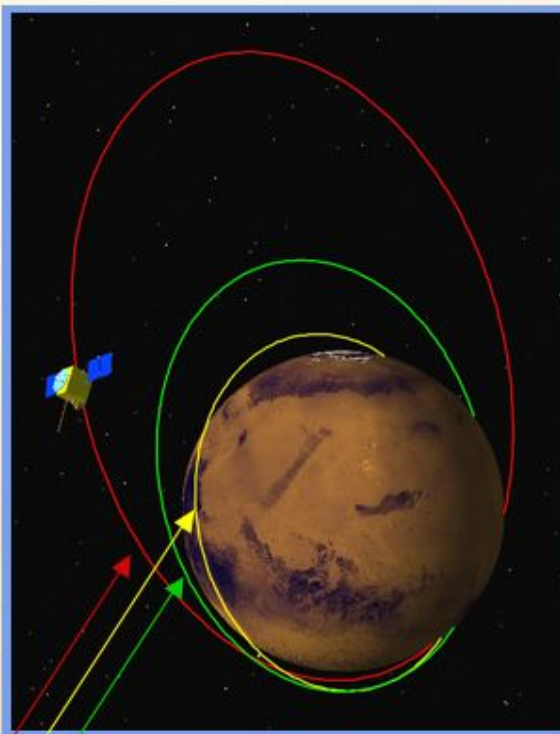
To be finalized by SDT and AO

MISSION DESIGN

Science Phase I 150 X 6500 km
Science Phase II 400 X 400 km
Relay Phase 400 X 2000 km
Science Emphasis 2 years
Relay Emphasis 8 years
Type II Trajectory, $C_3=11.3 \text{ km}^2/\text{s}^2$
Arrival $V_\infty=3.21 \text{ km/s}$

Pre-Project Orbit Trades

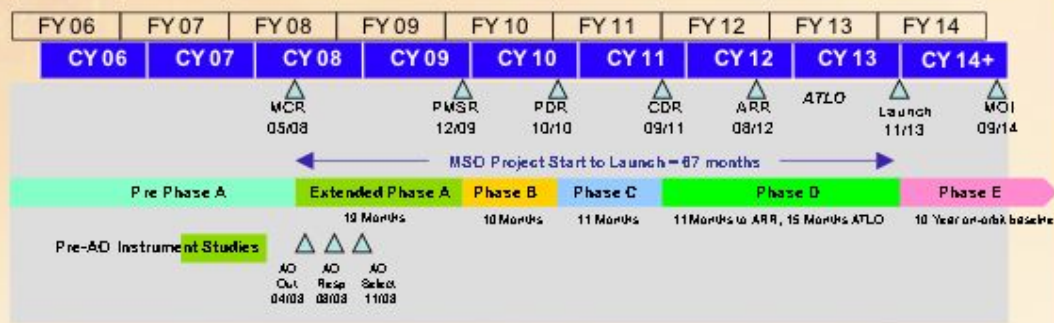
Result: 3 consecutive orbits



FLIGHT SYSTEM

MASS SUMMARY

MISSION SCHEDULE



Project Lifecycle

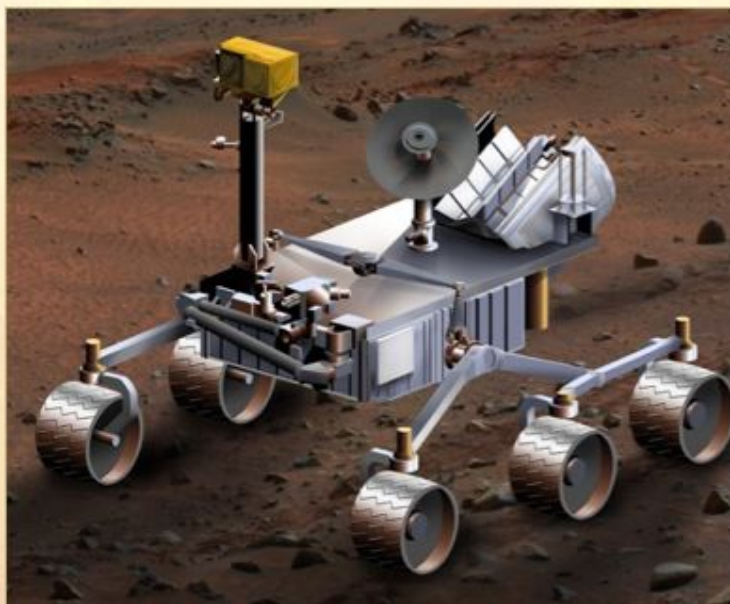
Pre-phase A & Phase A allow for refinement of science and strategic goals



Astrobiology Field Laboratory (MSL Derivative)- 2016, 2018

Objectives:

- *Assess biological potential of sites, interpret paleo-climate record, and search for biosignatures of ancient and modern life*



Issues:

- *Viability of mission depends on MSL results in its search for organics*
 - *Potential for Phoenix to play this role, as well*
- *Planetary protection*

S/C and EDL Heritage:

- MSL

Instrument Heritage:

- MSL



Planetary Evolution and Meteorology Network- 2016, 2018

Objectives:

- Investigate deep interior (elastic constants, density, interfaces)
- Meteorology and boundary layer dynamics
- Baseline mission: four landers on ≈ 1000 km baseline

Issues:

- Qualification of rough landers and instruments
- Dispersal of landers
- EDL design
- Number of successful landers required is 3 or 4?



Heritage:

- New design for the Lander

Instrument Heritage:

- Substantial Met package heritage
- Substantial US/French development of seismometers



Mid-Rover-2016, 2018

Function of Mission:

- Explore the geological diversity of Mars by putting down two MER-class rovers for the price of one MSL, with MSL landing reliability and accuracy
- Leverage MSL heritage to the greatest extent possible to realize cost savings

Exploration Metrics:

- Two rovers
- 90-sol primary mission each
- Technology required:
 - Raman, Near-IR instrument development
 - Half-size MSL throttled thrusters
 - Integrated actuators



Payloads:

- Mass
 - Pancam
 - Near-IR imaging spectrometer
- Arm
 - RAT
 - APXS
 - Mössbauer
 - Raman spectrometer
 - Near-IR micro-imaging spectrometer

Technology Heritage:

- MSL cruise, EDL, and rover
- MER science instruments

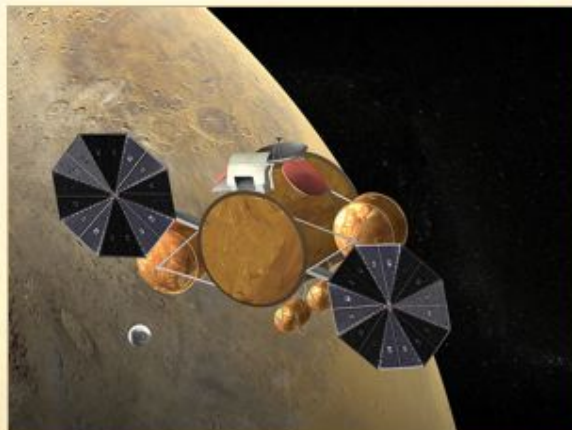


Mars Sample Return-2020's

(Orbiter and Telecom, and Lander, MAV and Rover)

Objectives:

- Investigate the evolution of the planet and its climate, mineralogy, geochemistry, weathering, and bio-potential
- Mobile sample collection



Orbiter Heritage:

- MRO

Issues:

- Split launch of Orbiter and Lander
- Early start for technology and MRSH facility
- Relative emphasis on search for evidence of life vs planetary and climate evolution



Rover Heritage:

- Mid-Rover, MER

Lander/EDL Heritage:

- MSL

Mars Exploration Program

Critical Support Elements





Technology Program—Goals

- *Land greater payload mass at higher altitudes*
- *Place payloads safely and precisely at any desired location on the surface of Mars*
- *Access to sites with terrain too complex to land current rovers*
- *Increase mobility and autonomy of Program spacecraft and enable long-life exploration capabilities*
- *Access the subsurface and acquire samples for in situ analysis*
- *Develop new science instruments*
- *Enable in-situ sample acquisition, preparation, and distribution systems*
- *Develop planetary protection techniques*
- *Develop technologies that enable long-lived science investigation*
- *Develop technologies that enable lower-cost small missions*
- *Develop proximity communication technologies to enable high data return*
- *Develop Mars Sample Return (MSR) technologies*



Base Technology Program Content

The content of Base Technology Program is determined by the longer-term MEP missions. The following technology areas were selected for the 2004 NRA

Technology Area	Current Capability	NRA Goal
Rover Technology	<i>Multiple sols per inst placement Local navigation Wheel odometry</i>	<i>Single sol inst placement Longer range navigation Wheel and visual odometry</i>
Low Cost Mission Technologies <i>Propulsion Solar Cells and Arrays Aerial Mobility</i>	<i>State-of-the-Art components Non-Mars solar cells, 90 sols Low maturity in aerial inflation, navigation</i>	<i>10 to 50% reduction in mass ~9% increase in efficiency, 600 sols 120,000 ft validated deployment</i>
Advanced Entry, Descent, and Landing	<i>No spacecraft to spacecraft navigation State-of-the-Art EDL sensors, algorithms No active parachute control</i>	<i>Nav knowledge increase from 5 to 1km Order of magnitude in pos, vel, landing 120,000 ft flight tests of active control</i>
Telecom, Navigation, and Tracking	<i>No adaptive data rates, <300 Mbits/sol State-of-the-Art EM modeling, 1 Cray State-of-the-Art transceivers</i>	<i>Adaptive data rates, 520 Mbits/sol Improved algorithms, 1 desktop Order of magnitude better in Kg, W</i>
Subsurface Access	<i>Low TRL technology for Mars drilling 8MM Mars penetration by MER RAT</i>	<i>Develop and demonstrate realistic Shallow (0-1 m) drilling Deep (1-50m) drilling</i>
Planetary Protection	<i><300 Spores/m² Assay of single cultivable spore in 72 hrs No light weight bio-barrier technology</i>	<i><0.3 Spores/m² Single spore assay in 1 hour Develop TRL 6 bio-barrier technology</i>
Mars Instrument Development Project (MIDP)	<i>Instruments developed under PIDDP or other programs (low TRL)</i>	<i>In-situ instruments matured (TRL6) ready for AO proposals</i>



Technologies Infused into Mars Missions

- ***MER: 14 Technologies Infused***
 - *Power Storage - Lithium-Ion Battery*
 - *Ground Control Software - Science Activity Planner, Parallel Telemetry Processor*
 - *Rover Navigation and Control - Long Range Science Rover, Field Integrated Design and Operations Rover, Manipulator Collision, Prevention Software, Visual Odometry, Rover Localization and Mapping, Grid-based Estimation of Surface Traversability Applied to Local Terrain, Automated Instrument Placement, Automated Tracking to Approach Designated Rocks Autonomously, On-Board Global Path Planning*
 - *Autonomous Science - Autonomous Science to Detect Dust Devils*
 - *EDL - Descent Image Motion Estimation System*
- ***MRO: 2 Technologies Infused***
 - *Telecom - Electra Payload to TRL 6*
 - *EDL/Nav - Optical Navigation Camera*



Technologies Infused into Mars Missions

- **Phoenix: 3 Technologies Infused**
 - **Science** - Bio-Barrier Technology, Science Interface Planner, REGA Science Instrument
- **MSL : 22 Technology Infusions (not flown yet)**
 - Science Instruments - SAM/TLS, CHEMIN, LIBS
 - EDL - Mars Lander Engine, Radar altimeter/Velocimeter Breadboard, SkyCrane design including touchdown dynamics Testbed, Guided Entry algorithms, Terminal descent algorithms, POST2 (EDL simulation software at (LaRC), DSENDs (SEDL Simulation software at JPL), Aeroshell Aerothermal environment specs and aerodynamic database, TPS database (SLA-561V/SRAM17/SRAM20), Multiple Radial Arm Filter Assembly
 - Surface System -TCRE Cold temperature electronics/packaging design rules, Quad-Op-Amps, and Large Sample Characterization for Cold Encoder Parts, Life-tested cruise/surface pumped fluid loops for RTG heat rejection/recirculation systems (HRS), Corer/Abrader Tool (CAT) prototype, decision in progress, Lightweight wheel, differential prototypes, & Touchdown Mobility Research Vehicle (TMRV) design, Surface system simulation tool (MP-AvSIM and ROAMS), Organic cleaning techniques, SA/SPaH concept designs (including results from snake-jaw rock crusher and coring/force-torque sensing evaluations), Next Gen Activity Planning & Sequencing System (GNAPSS) software (including MAESTRO)
 - Telecom - Adaptive Electra Data Rate



Mars Research & Analysis Programs

- **Mars Fundamental Research Program (MFRP)**
 - Basic research on processes relating to the origin, evolution, and habitability of Mars' atmosphere, surface and interior
 - Approximately \$7M per year supporting ~100 investigations (note: MDAP & MFRP coordinate funding and selection priorities)
- **Mars Data Analysis Program (MDAP)**
 - Enhance scientific return from missions by broadening scientific participation in analysis of publicly available data and to fund high-priority areas of research that support future missions.
 - Approximately \$7M per year supporting ~100 investigations
- **Participating Scientists - mission specific (typically project funded)**
 - Enhance the scientific expertise and breadth of scientific relevance
 - Facilitate mission operations and data analysis
 - Broaden participation of scientific community
- **Call for Proposals**
 - Program elements in ROSES omnibus NASA Research Announcement
 - Available on NSPIRES website at <http://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/index.do>



Mars Fundamental Research Program (MFRP)

- *Purpose: Basic research on processes relating to the origin, evolution, and habitability of Mars' atmosphere, surface and interior*
- *Examples*
 - *Theoretical and experimental studies of Mars processes*
 - *Laboratory and field studies of Mars meteorites and terrestrial analogs*
 - *Development of datasets for Mars-like materials to aid interpretation of flight data*
- *Proposal review*
 - *Due mid summer, full peer review, selection in winter*
 - *Receive >120 proposals, select ~35%, average award \$80K*



Mars Data Analysis Program (MDAP)

Funds the analysis of data returned from NASA and other missions to Mars.

Purpose:

- A) to enhance mission scientific return
- B) broadens scientific participation in the analysis of mission data sets
- C) funds high-priority areas of research that support planning for future missions.

Recent Missions:

Mars Pathfinder (MPF)

Mars Odyssey (MO)

Mars Express (MEX)

Mars Global Surveyor (MGS)

Mars Exploration Rovers (MERs)

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO)

- *Proposals Received: ~ 100*
- *Selection Rate: 25% - 35%*
- *Average Award Size ~ \$70K (2006)*
- Due dates: Usually late summer (August)
- Selections: Usually late winter



Mars Planetary Protection Program

NASA Planetary Protection Policy

- Preserve planetary conditions for future biological and organic constituent exploration
(*prevent Forward Contamination; protect science opportunities*)
- Protect the Earth and its' biosphere from adverse effects due to returned samples
(*prevent Backward Contamination*)

Required by Article IX of the Outer Space Treaty

Critical Challenges

- Compelling science on Mars requires investigation of regions where Earth organisms might propagate
- Organisms carried on spacecraft could impact future missions and current biological and organic analyses
- Full spacecraft sterilization has not been accomplished by the US since Viking

Technologies and Capabilities

- New sterilization and decontamination methods for future Mars spacecraft
- Better methods to detect and enumerate microbial contamination will improve spacecraft cleanliness
- Knowing which organisms might survive on Mars will enable better detection technologies
- Need better limits on Martian "special regions", where only sterile spacecraft may go

Status

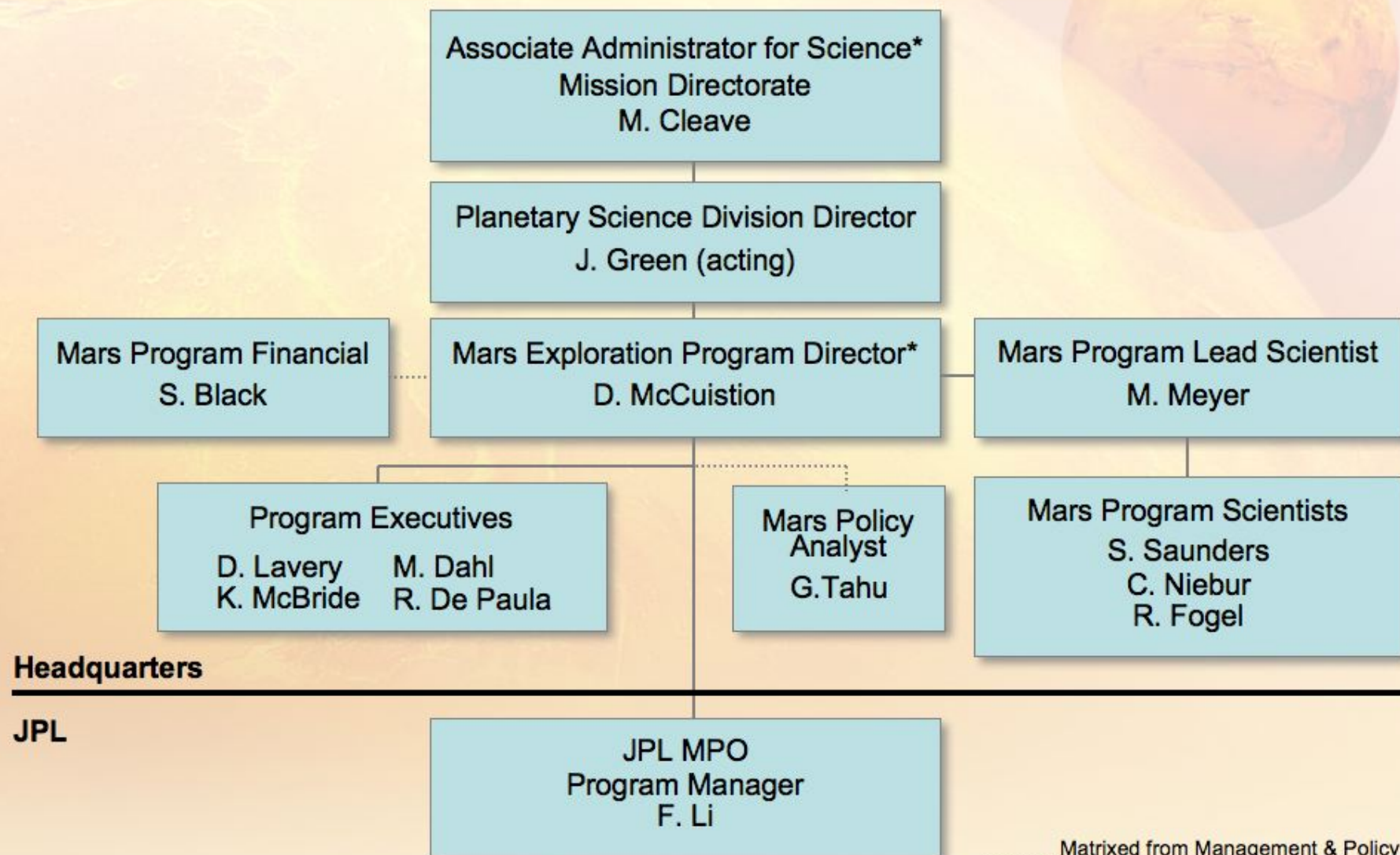
- The Mars Program has a Planetary Protection Manager to handle program-level requirements
- Multiple additional sterilization methods are being evaluated
- Molecular approaches to inventory spacecraft biological contamination are in development
- Mars Program report on Mars "special regions" is under review by COSPAR and ESA

Backup





Program Organization



Headquarters

JPL

..... Matrixed from Management & Policy Division

- MEP Director no longer reports directly to AA, per Young Report recommendation



Current International Cooperation

- **Mars Global Surveyor (MGS):**
 - *France: Electron Reflectometer associated with the Magnetometer, Support for the Radio Science Experiment, and provision of the Mars Relay package*
 - *Austria: Science Support*
- **Mars Odyssey:**
 - *Russia: High Energy Neutron Detector (HEND)*
 - *France: Germanium Detectors for the Gamma-Ray Spectrometer*
- **Mars Exploration Rovers (MER):**
 - *Germany: APXS and Mössbauer Spectrometers*
 - *Denmark: Permanent Magnet Array Experiment*
 - *France: Science Support*
- **Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO):**
 - *Italy: Shallow Radar (SHARAD)*
- **ESA Mars Express (MEX):**
 - *NASA is a participant on each of the 6 instruments through bilateral arrangements, plus the overall mission with ESA*



Upcoming International Cooperation

- **2007 Phoenix Lander:**
 - *Canada: Meteorological Station*
 - *Germany: Robotic Arm Camera*
 - *Switzerland: Atomic Force Microscope*
 - *Denmark: Magnetic Properties Experiment*
- **2009 Mars Science Laboratory (MSL):**
 - *Russia: Dynamic Albedo of Neutrons (DAN) Investigation*
 - *Canada: Alpha Particle X-Ray Spectrometer (APXS)*
 - *Spain: Remote Environmental Monitoring Station (REMS) and Communications Hardware*
 - *France: Contributions to the Chemistry and Micro-Imaging (ChemCam) and Sample Analysis at Mars (SAM) Instrument Suites*
 - *Germany: Contributions to the Radiation Assessment Detector (RAD)*
- **2011 Scout:**
 - *International contributions are TBD*
- **2013 Mars Science Orbiter:**
 - *International contributions are TBD*



Preparing for Human Mars Exploration

Studies to Develop Goal IV

In 2005, extensive studies stemming from “Safe on Mars” resulted in objectives, measurements, and precursor requirements

MEASUREMENTS that would reduce cost, risk, and/or enhance the overall success of future human missions to Mars.

- prioritize and suggest required sequential relationships
- identify where the measurements should be acquired
- suggest the number of distinct sites for each measurement

TECHNOLOGY / INFRASTRUCTURE emplacement that would reduce cost, risk, and/or enhance the overall success of future human missions to Mars.

MISSION ARCHITECTURE that describes in particular the measurement, technology, and infrastructure capabilities of potential testbed missions.



Mars Human Precursor Study

Measurements, Technology, & Infrastructure Results

Early Phase (2011-2016)

*Influence architectural decisions
for human missions*

- Measurement objectives (dust, atmosphere, biohazards, water, etc.)
- Atmosphere/regolith ISRU demos
- Aerocapture (70° cone) demo

Mid Phase (2018-2022)

*Commitment to architectures
for humans*

- Subscale demonstration of a human scalable landing system
- Pinpoint Landing
- Subscale demonstration of a human-scalable ISRU surface system
- Radiation shielding properties of regolith
- Connector durability and materials degradation

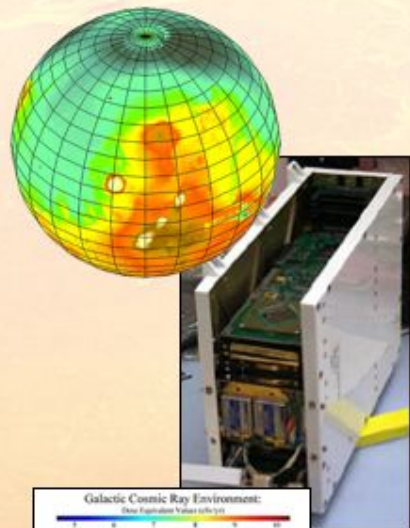
Late Phase (2024-2028)

*Influence operability decisions
& landing site selection*

- Detailed surface reconnaissance of a selected first human landing site
- Full-scale “dress rehearsal” of the human mission key systems:
 - Landing
 - ISRU
 - Ascent
- Infrastructure Emplacement e.g:
 - Telecom orbiters
 - Landed infrastructure systems

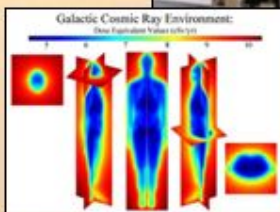


Preparing for Human Explorers This Decade



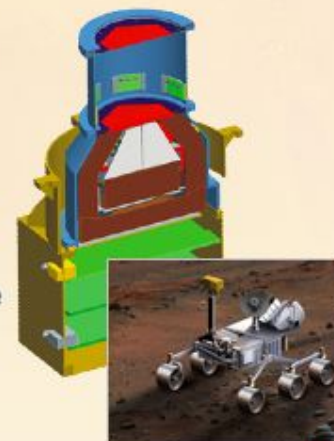
Mars Odyssey's Mars Radiation Environment Experiment (MARIE) collected data on the radiation environment (interplanetary cruise & Mars orbit) to help assess potential risks to future human explorers.

Phoenix's (MECA, TEGA, MARDI, SSI, RA/RAC) payload addresses all of the investigations in Goal IV, with the exception of radiation measurement. The flight system addresses the top two technology demonstrations in Goal IV.



Mars Science Laboratory's Radiation Assessment Detector (RAD) will characterize the radiation environment on the surface of Mars:

- Dose rate and Equivalent Dose rate for humans on the Martian surface
- Validate atmospheric transmission models and radiation transport codes
- Radiation hazard and mutagenic influences to life at and beneath the surface
- Chemical and isotopic effects of energetic particles
- Joint activity with SMD & ESMD





Lunar Exploration Relevancy for Mars

Addressing Humans-to-Mars Challenges, on the Moon

How to develop missions & architectures around known needs, and integrate them into human exploration strategies?

- Lunar architectures may not automatically address Mars challenges*

Mars Mission Duration

- Round-trip missions are two to three years in duration*
- Regenerable systems for water and air*
- High system reliability and maintainability*
- Techniques for in-space radiation protection required*

Mars Environment

- Extensive and routine extra-vehicular activity and surface mobility capability*
- Water and air regeneration, potentially combined with Mars resource utilization for maintaining reasonable consumables masses*
- Advanced surface habitation techniques, including dust mitigation, power generation & storage, and thermal control.*
- Radiation protection on Mars' surface*
- Planetary protection (forward & backward)*

Operational Experience and Technology Development/Demonstration on the Moon Can Reduce the Risk & Cost of Human Exploration of Mars